

CIVIL AIR PATROL



Volunteer

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THROUGH A SENIOR'S EYES

B-24 Flight Confirms Dream to Soar

CONGRESSIONAL CONNECTION

CAP Partners with Legislative Leadership

ONE OF A KIND

ARCHER Generates High Interest

GIFT OF LIFE

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HOW THE TOUGH GET GOING.

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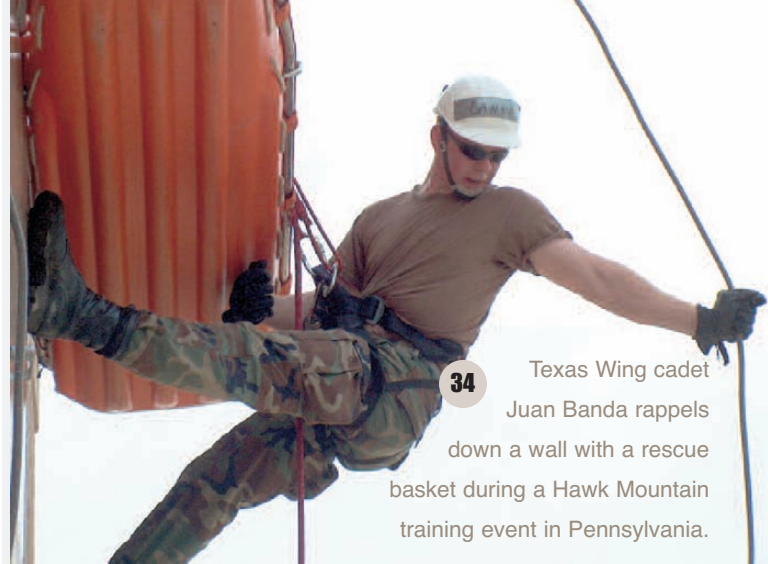


CIVIL AIR PATROL volunteer

May-June 2006

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ON OUR COVER

Former U.S. Army Air Corps 1st Lt. Adam Kubinciak shows his great-grandson, Florida Wing Cadet Airman Joe Mallon, his name on the outside of the B-24 Liberator bomber. Kubinciak flew 34 missions as a B-24 command pilot during World War II.

Credit: 1st Lt. Jackie Zarrilli, Florida Wing

CIVIL AIR PATROL **Volunteer**

Celebrating Our 65th Year of National Service

CAP is being recognized for its professionalism at the highest levels. During a special Pentagon briefing for CAP National Board members in March, numerous laudatory comments were made by Air Force leaders — including Lt. Gen. Carrol H. “Howie” Chandler, Air Force deputy chief of staff for Air, Space and Information Operations. The recognition made me incredibly proud as a CAP member and as your commander!

This top-line recognition is a direct result of our ability to carry out challenging missions with dedication, commitment and discipline. However, we cannot rest on our laurels. We must continue this trend in order to earn greater respect from the agencies we support. As our reputation grows, so do our responsibilities. Working together with our Air Force partners in homeland security will result in more HLS missions in the future. As a result, we must maintain our efficiency and training in all areas to ensure we can respond quickly and effectively.

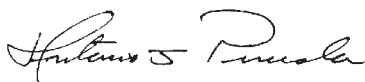
More good news — CAP’s school programs are on the increase nationwide! I am extremely pleased with this because it’s all about taking America’s youngsters off the streets and bringing them into our youth program. Thanks to our teachers and members for helping make this great program so valuable.

Operationally, we recently purchased an additional 20 Cessna 182s with glass cockpits. This year’s goal is to increase our glass cockpit C182 fleet to 38. Once each wing is in possession of a new aircraft, we will start allocating a second one for every wing. In addition, we’re presently upgrading our communications systems with new HF and VHF radios and a repeater system. In light of what we accomplished jointly during the nation’s 2005 hurricane response efforts, undoubtedly these upgrades will make us even more effective as an emergency services partner.

I am also pleased to report that the winter board was a tremendous success. Over 14,000 members watched it live online. From now on, all National Executive Committee and board meetings will be streamed live to ensure our members stay informed and have a chance to see how hard their board members work to improve CAP.

Lastly, the board approved a new corporate uniform in order to give our members another choice. All I ask of those who choose to wear it is that they wear it proudly and professionally.

Semper vigilans!



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ON THE WEB

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squadron and wing news.**

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Blood Transport Missions

Missouri Wing Credited with Save

By Lenore Vickrey

Two Missouri Wing aircrews recently performed humanitarian missions that illustrate the life-saving importance of Civil Air Patrol to people in their local communities.

Maj. Edward Mueth, Group II commander, recently developed a rapid response procedure in partnership with the American Red Cross to transport blood in an emergency. In February, the procedure was put to good use not once, but twice.

On the first mission, Mueth and Lt. Col. Dan Ranson flew special cross-matched blood to a hospital in Poplar Bluff, Mo., for a transfusion. On the second mission a

few weeks later, another Missouri wing crew picked up blood from Columbia, Mo., and brought it back to St. Louis where a young girl needed AB platelets.

Despite a stiff headwind on the flight to Poplar Bluff, the crew made it in the time allowed. “The rest is history as the Red Cross people were waiting for us at the other airport, and the mission was successful,” said Ranson.

“This was the first time the procedure had been used,

1st Lt. John Dueker, left, Maj. Edward Mueth, Lt. Col. Daniel Ranson and Sr. Mbr. Robert Lowery III go over the flight plan prior to a mission.

Photo courtesy of Capt. (Dr.) David A. Miller



**“Preplanning
was crucial
to the
success of
these
missions”**

**— Maj. Edward
Mueth**

and the AFRCC (Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Langley Air Force Base, Va.) has credited us with a ‘save’ for it,” said Mueth of the emergency blood transport plan he established in partnership with the Red Cross.

“I’m so enthusiastic about this, because two volunteer agencies came together and reacted quickly to get blood to a remote area to help the victim,” he added.

A few weeks later, the members of Missouri Wing’s Group II were called on, but instead of taking blood products from the blood bank in St. Louis

to an area hospital, the pilots picked up special cross-matched blood in Columbia and brought it back to St. Louis for a young girl who needed a transfusion.

Pilots 1st Lt. John Dueker and Sr. Mbr. Robert Lowery were on a routine training mission in one of the wing’s Cessna 182s when they got the call from Group II Headquarters. Landing at a local airport to receive further instructions, they quickly flew to Columbia to meet the courier.

“Upon release, we took off within three minutes, climbed rapidly to 4,500 feet and set up the GPS for the quickest route to Columbia,” said Dueker. “More time was saved by making an en route descent, keeping the speed just under the yellow arc.”

The crew did not refuel, but did some quick mental calculations to make sure they had enough fuel to get back to St. Louis before making another quick departure. They arrived at the airport a full 10 minutes earlier than the Red Cross courier, said Lowery.

Preplanning was crucial to the success of these missions, said Mueth, who had already developed, in partnership with the Red Cross, a list of seven airports located closest to the hospitals the agency serves.

“For each airport, we established a meeting place that would be reachable at all hours, so our aircrews could rendezvous with the ARC couriers,” said Mueth. “And each pilot who might fly this sort of mission was provided with a basic flight plan already prepared, so they could simply add the weather conditions and go. A copy of the navigation plan and procedures were also in the aircraft.”

Pilots who wanted to be on the roster for these missions committed to having their uniforms and gear with them at work or in their car, and they provided times of day when they could fly, Mueth said.

“Within a few minutes of the first call from the ARC, I will get notification from the AFRCC that we are approved and the mission can begin,” he said.

“Unlike a nondistress ELT (emergency locator transmitter) in the middle of the night, this is a mission that has a very real impact on the community,” said Mueth. “The crew set the bar pretty high with that mission. They also received credit with a ‘save.’ ”

“Often overshadowed by search and rescue missions, the transport of needed blood and tissue to critical care sites is an equally important mission for the CAP,” said Capt. (Dr.) David A. Miller, Group II medical officer and assistant medical officer for the Missouri Wing.

And the rewards go both ways, as the pilots involved can attest: “It puts things into perspective and shows how a very simple act for one person can have an enormous impact on someone else,” said Mueth. ▲

“Unlike a nondistress ELT (emergency locator transmitter) in the middle of the night, this is a mission that has a very real impact on the community.”

— Maj. Edward Mueth

BULLS EYE

CAP's ARCHER System Generating High-Level Interest

By Jim Tynan

“We certainly are in the process of establishing ourselves as a leader in the world of hyperspectral imaging. We have learned this technology has many different uses, and we’re now beginning to harness all of the things it can do.”

It wasn't but a few years ago that if a Civil Air Patrol member went around babbling about pixel fallout, C-MIGITS data, spectral signatures and precision image geo-registration, it would have been readily suggested that he or she seek professional help, immediately. But in today's post 9/11 world, this “tech-speak” about CAP's new operational system dubbed ARCHER — airborne real-time cueing hyperspectral imaging reconnaissance — has gotten the attention of officials at the highest levels.

“When we originally looked at the ARCHER technology, back before 9/11, it was viewed as an exciting, up-and-coming search and rescue tool — a better set of eyeballs, if you will,” explained Col. Drew Alexa, director of CAP's Advanced Tech-

nologies Group. “But today, after more than four years of watching this technology mature and our ability to use it progress, there's a lot of interest at very high levels being generated around the nation about this program.”

According to Alexa, the list of agencies interested in working with CAP and ARCHER is “pretty impressive, and that interest has resulted in some new and exciting missions and support for CAP.” Interested organizations include the House Armed Services Committee; Department of Energy; the Air Force's Northern Command, 1st Air Force and U.S. Space Command; NASA Goddard Space Flight Center; the U.S. Geological Survey's Wyoming Water Science Center; Missouri Department of Natural Resources; and the Environmental Protection Agency.

On March 17, Alexa and Dr. John C. Kershenstein, a research physicist with the Naval Research Laboratory and a CAP lieutenant



Col. Drew Alexa, director of Civil Air Patrol's Advanced Technologies Group, briefs attendees on CAP's hyperspectral imaging capabilities during the 2006 1st Air Force Commanders' Conference at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

“Today, after more than four years of watching this technology mature and our ability to use it progress, there’s a lot of interest at very high levels being generated around the nation about this program.”

— Col. Drew Alexa, director of CAP’s Advanced Technologies Group

colonel, traveled to Washington, D.C., and briefed a handful of staffers with both the House Armed Services Committee and the office of Congresswoman Candice S. Miller, R-Mich. Miller and her staff became interested in CAP’s emergent technology after having met with Michigan Wing Commander Col. Gary Mayo and several other wing members during CAP’s Legislative Day on March 2.

“They had received some bits and pieces of information about our hyperspectral imaging and satellite digital-imaging programs. With the different things going on in the

world, they wanted to explore and learn more about the capabilities of ARCHER and what possibilities it might have for additional uses, both domestically and possibly internationally,” said Alexa. “All in all, the meeting went very well! They appreciated receiving the informative brief, and I have been told the HASC will be following closely the progress of CAP’s ARCHER program.”

Alexa believes this level of interest speaks volumes about the importance of what CAP has accomplished in this emerging, high-tech arena.

“We certainly are in the process of establishing ourselves as a leader

in the world of hyperspectral imaging. We have learned this technology has many different uses, and we’re now beginning to harness all of the things it can do,” he stated. “And our accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. In fact, just recently, U.S. Northern Command officials announced it will invest \$400,000 this year in our ARCHER program to explore ways to store and transfer this valuable hyperspectral data. Their interest and investment supports the importance of this program – and it’s something every CAP member can be very proud of.” ▲



1st Lt. Shane Terpstra, California Wing, uses CAP’s ARCHER system during a mission.



Kindred Spirits

B-24 Flight Unites Cadet, Great-Grandfather Aviator

No Messerschmitts fired at the bomber; no flak riddled the sky. Nor did the World War II-era aircraft need a P-51 Mustang fighter escort.

Still, Florida Wing Cadet Airman Joe Mallon found plenty of excitement in his first ride in a B-24 Liberator.

More than 60 years ago, U.S. Army Air Corps 1st Lt. Adam Kubinciak, his great-grandfather, piloted the same bomber during 34 missions above Nazi Germany.

Recently, CAP Sr. Mbr. Donna Mallon, Kubinciak's granddaughter, arranged the flight through The Collings Foundation as a gift to Kubinciak, and she and great-grandson Joe went along for the ride, which launched out of Boca Raton Airport in Florida.

"It was unbelievable, once in a lifetime," said Mallon, an aspiring F-117 Nighthawk pilot.

Mallon crawled and sat in the B-24's nose turret and was well aware of the vulnerability of the important gunners who once sat in the glass shell to protect the bomber.

The experience solidified the youth's already firm conviction to follow in his great-grandfather's footsteps. His membership in CAP is helping him realize that dream.

"CAP has a terrific aerospace program, and I have already flown on four orientation flights," Mallon said.

He and his mother are active members of the Florida

Former U.S. Army Air Corps 1st Lt. Adam Kubinciak, left; his granddaughter, Sr. Mbr. Donna Mallon; and Kubinciak's great-grandson Cadet Airman Joe Mallon stand together after flying in the World War II-era B-24 Liberator.

Credit: 1st Lt. Jackie Zarrilli, Florida Wing

Wing's Boca Raton Composite Squadron, which meets at the same airport where the B-24 launched into the sky.

The experience overwhelmed Donna Mallon.

"For three generations to be able to be on the same flight and experience what my grandfather experienced in the war, it was just breathtaking and very emotional," she said.

For Kubinciak, who was able to fly in a Collings Foundation B-24 once before after donating money to the group, most of the pleasure of this flight was witnessing the maturity of his great-grandson.

"He's in the Civil Air Patrol, as you know, and has actually become very dedicated to the organization, and I'm very proud he has done that," he said. ▲

— Florida Wing Public Affairs Officer 1st Lt. Jackie Zarrilli contributed to this story.

Flying High

Challenge Air and CAP Put Kids on Cloud Nine

By Jennifer Kornegay

Disabled children in Florida got the thrill of their lives, a ride in the co-pilot seat of a small aircraft, during the 10th annual “Fly Day” sponsored by Challenge Air, a nonprofit organization that offers motivational, inspirational and life-changing experiences to physically challenged children and youth through aviation.

The Dallas-based organization sponsored the event free of charge at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport with the enthusiastic support of the Civil Air Patrol’s Florida Wing.

“We are so proud to be affiliated with CAP and feel fortunate to have them on our team,” said Challenge

Air’s executive director Byron Laszlo.

“Safety has to be number one in what we do, and that is where CAP really comes in handy. They work our ramp assisting with taxiing, parking and directing aircraft,” he said. “A lot of our volunteers haven’t been around aircraft, so CAP gives us the qualified volunteers we need. Without them, we really wouldn’t be able to do what we do.”

More than 60 Florida Wing members participated in the event, and according to Lt. Col. Virginia Montalvo, Fort Lauderdale Composite Squadron commander and officer in charge of the event, it was the largest and most successful one so far.

“One-hundred-and-sixty special-



needs children, young people and their families flew in 27 airplanes piloted by private volunteer pilots, many of them also disabled,” she said. “Everyone did a great job, and I know it meant the world to those we helped.”

“We’ve been helping Challenge Air with these events for nine years,” she added. “But we all get a lot out of it too, especially our cadets. This is one activity they are always anxious to be a part of. They know they are doing a really good thing and love helping the kids. There is nothing better than getting young people excited about giving back to their community.”

Florida Wing cadets and senior members from seven squadrons in

“Safety has to be number one in what we do, and that is where CAP really comes in handy. ... A lot of our volunteers haven’t been around aircraft, so CAP gives us the qualified volunteers we need. Without them, we really wouldn’t be able to do what we do.”

— Byron Laszlo, executive director, Challenge Air

Broward and Palm Beach counties lent their expertise to every aspect of the event. From the bustling flight line and radio communications to helping with food service, they pitched in wherever they were needed. Members also conducted ground school classes that taught the kids the basics of flying and how an airplane works.

But the most popular duty was the escorting, loading and unloading of the apprehensive young participants at the waiting airplanes. CAP members who performed this task also got to witness the kids' excited, smiling faces after their flight.

"Experiencing the freedom of flight empowers and inspires these youngsters to aim high," said Montalvo.

Laszlo agreed. "This event is designed to allow these kids to forget about their disabilities," he said. "When we put them in the cockpit and, at some point, give them the

controls, they feel a sense of freedom and inspiration they haven't known. It instills confidence and motivates them to look beyond their disabilities."

Laszlo said the event actually uplifts entire families as well.

"Parents are usually flying with them in the back seat. When they witness their child taking the controls, it shows them

their child can do so much more than they thought," he said. "It is more than just a day of fun. It encourages the whole family, and it works."

The spirit of cooperation that is a hallmark of CAP was on full display during "Fly Day." Lantana Cadet Squadron Commander Capt.

Lt. Col. Robert F. Ward of the Florida Wing helps a Challenge Air participant into the co-pilot's seat for a flight over the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., area.

Chrissie Johnson said, "It is so amazing to see so many CAP members working together at this event. Everywhere you looked, a CAP volunteer was helping the children and directing the pilots."

Lt. Col. Russ Reichmann, chief of operations training and evaluation for the Florida Wing, reiterated Laszlo's sentiments: "I've been told several times by the folks at Challenge Air that if it weren't for CAP and the work we do, they wouldn't be able to hold the event at all," he said. "We make a great team." ▲



Air Force Salute

Maj. Gen. Mayes Praises Work of Volunteers

1st Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. M. Scott Mayes praised Civil Air Patrol volunteers extensively during CAP's Legislative Day Luncheon.

Mayes showered complimentary words upon CAP for protecting America on the ground and in the sky at an extremely low cost, ensuring the safety of Washington, D.C., through homeland security missions, providing extensive support to hurricane relief efforts and helping the U.S. in many other ways.

Mayes also thanked Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Michael L. Dominguez for appointing him to the CAP Board of Governors.

"We've got (nearly) 60,000 CAP members who are my sensors out there, and they are earning their keep, looking out for the bad guys and helping protect America," said Mayes, explaining CAP's impact on homeland security.

Mayes paused to credit National Capital Wing Commander Col. Jane Davies and her members with missions related to this endeavor.

"Her great CAP members are out flying targets for us — Falcon Virgo exercises certifying both my airborne platforms and my ground-based air defense here in the Capital



1st Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. M. Scott Mayes praised CAP volunteers for their hurricane relief efforts, as well as their dedication to search and rescue, counterdrug and border protection missions.

Region, protecting our national treasures, our national landmarks and our leadership here in our nation's capital. That is a good deal," said Mayes, noting the cost effectiveness of these missions.

Mayes also provided a thorough roundup of complimentary remarks regarding CAP's hurricane relief assistance.

He applauded CAP's invaluable efforts to help emergency crews navigate roads, as well as assistance provided to state and federal agencies and the U.S. military in the form of

aerial impact-assessment missions, communications relays and personnel transport.

In addition, Mayes personally thanked CAP for airlifting him several times, including a flight to visit with President Bush.

Although he had many aviation options at his fingertips during relief efforts — from KC-135s and U-2s to C-130s — Mayes said CAP was his first choice.

"Let me tell you that, at any given time, the only platforms I put a tasking against were CAP assets, and you did wonderfully," he said.

Mayes further commended CAP volunteers for their efforts in several other areas, including saving American lives through search and rescue, keeping drugs off the streets and out of children's hands through counterdrug enforcement and ensuring all citizens' safety through border protection, the latter of which Mayes said now includes work related to the war on terror.

"Some of those immigrants may be coming north to do something besides pick tomatoes. They may be coming up with explosives strapped to their backs and hate in their hearts. So, God bless you for your efforts to prevent this," Mayes said. ▲

Award Winner

CAP Honored For SAR Efforts

The Civil Air Patrol was recently awarded the Jimmy Doolittle Fellow Award at the Air Force Association's 22nd Air Warfare Symposium.

The award honors the late Air Force Gen. Jimmy Doolittle, who actively promoted public understanding and support for aerospace power, and recognizes CAP for its continued and outstanding contributions to search and rescue. The AFA's Aerospace Education Foundation chose CAP as the recipient.

CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda, who accepted the award on behalf of CAP, expressed how proud he is to be a part of the organization.

"One of the proudest moments I have experienced as CAP's national commander occurred at the AFA's 22nd Air Warfare Symposium," he said. "At the formal gala, before an audience of 1,400 AFA members and supporters — including Gen. William Looney, commander of Air Education and Training Command, and seven other four-star generals — it was my great privilege to accept the Jimmy Doolittle Fellow Award."

Gen. Ronald Keys, commander of Air Combat Command, presented the award and outlined the reasons CAP was chosen. A video presentation put the hard work and commitment of CAP members in the spotlight.

"Not only were our accomplishments described in glowing terms, but also our impressive CAP video was projected on the giant screen highlighting, for all to appreciate, the dedication of our volunteers," Pineda said. "Throughout the evening, as I had an opportunity to speak with many of the generals, CAP and all our members' accomplishments were praised over and over."

Only two other awards were given at the banquet,



CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda, left, accepts the Air Force Association's Jimmy Doolittle Fellow Award from Air Force Gen. Ronald Keys, commander of Air Combat Command. The award was presented to CAP in recognition of its continued and outstanding contributions to search and rescue.

one to the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, the single agency responsible for all inland SAR activities, and the second to a courageous rescue unit on the front-line in Iraq.

Pineda stressed how exciting it was for CAP to be in such company and again heaped praise on his fellow CAP members. "For CAP to be included with these exceptional honorees was a tribute to our pursuit of excellence and our service to our communities and the nation. Whether we are one team searching for a downed aircraft or hundreds of volunteers tirelessly working for weeks on the Gulf Coast, the outstanding manner in which our volunteers conduct our search and rescue missions displays true teamwork and the pursuit of excellence I believe is unmatched in any volunteer organization," he said. ▲

'God Is My Co-Pilot'

CAP Says Goodbye to Former CEO

By Lenore Vickrey

One of the Air Force's most celebrated World War II pilots, Brig. Gen. Robert L. Scott Jr., died Feb. 27 in Warner Robins, Ga., at the age of 97.

Though probably best known as the author of "God Is My Co-Pilot," a history of the Flying Tigers, Scott also had a notable career with the Civil Air Patrol when he served as its executive officer from 1946 to '47, when CAP was the U.S. Army Air Corps Auxiliary.

According to CAP National Historian Col. Leonard Blasovich, Scott was many times appointed acting national commander of CAP when USAAC Brig. Gen. Earl L. Johnson or U.S. Army Air Forces Gen. Frederick H. Smith were in Europe commanding the forces there. He became a part of the CAP National Headquarters staff after its 1946 move from Texas to Bolling Field in Washington, D.C.

According to online and newspaper reports, Scott had a legendary career that spanned eight decades. He had more than 33,000 flying hours and official records credit

him with 13 aerial victories while flying the P-40 Warhawk over China, earning him the title of a double "ace."

As a child, he dreamed of flying. When he was 12, he built a glider to earn a Boy Scout merit badge. He flew it off the roof of a home in Macon, Ga., right into a rose bush. He said it was the only time he crashed.

He graduated from West Point in 1932, served with a squadron in Panama and was training Army pilots in California when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. He was told he was too old (at age 33) for combat duty, but press reports said he was apparently mistaken for another pilot named Scott and, although he had no experience flying the B-17 Flying Fortress, he was chosen to fly in an attack on Tokyo hours after retired Air Force Gen. Jimmy Doolittle and his pilots were to begin bombing Japan. Though the mission was scrubbed, Scott was on his way to making history.

He was awarded the Silver Star for helping evacuate allied troops and refugees. In addition, he became part of Brig. Gen. Claire Chennault's famous Flying Tigers in Japanese-occupied China, where he



led multiple missions against the Japanese. In 1942, he was given command of the 23rd Fighter Group of the China Air Task Force, the Army Air Force unit activated with remnants of the Fighting Tigers.

In 1943, Scott was ordered back to the U.S. to go on a nationwide tour to make speeches to war plant workers. He wrote the book "God Is My Co-Pilot" about his years with the Flying Tigers, and the book was made into a movie starring Dennis Morgan. Scott was a technical director to Warner Brothers during the movie production.

After the war, Scott served in a variety of positions with the Pentagon, including on a task force to make the Air Force a separate branch of the service. He commanded the Air Force's first fighter jet school at Williams Field, Ariz., and was commander of the 36th Fighter Bomber Wing at Furstenfeldbruck, Germany. After retirement, he wrote 14 books, worked as an insurance executive and continued to make news as what the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* called a "geriatric jet pilot." He was allowed to solo in an F-16 Fighting Falcon when he was 76 and to co-pilot the



Following a 1997 flight in an Air Force B-1 Lancer, Scott gives a thumbs-up.

F-15 Eagle at 80.

According to an article in *Air Force News*, he flew his last flight at age 89 in a B-1 Lancer bomber with the 116th Bomb Wing at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. "His flight log closed with over 33,000 hours in the air — a total few pilots have reached," the article noted.

Scott worked faithfully at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins for 20 years. He said his legacy, according to *Air Force News*, was "to teach the younger generation if we are strong, we will never have to endure another tragedy like World War II." ▲



Photos courtesy of Museum of Aviation

This official photo of Col. Robert L. Scott Jr. was taken in 1943.



A Killer Moment

'Killer Chick,' Female Thunderbird Pay Tribute to CAP

By Jennifer Kornegay



The Spaatz Association's Fifth Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet featured remarks from two former CAP cadets — Air Force Capts. Nicole Malachowski, the first female pilot to fly with the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, and Kim Campbell, a heroic A-10 warrior.

The association's members — all recipients of the CAP cadet program's highest honor, the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award — gathered in Arlington, Va., on March 4 for the event, which, in addition to serving as a homecoming celebration for award recipients, also functions as an Aerospace Leadership Scholarship fundraiser. The \$2,500 scholarships fund outstanding CAP cadets' transition from a solo to a private

pilot's license, said the association's national president, Maj. Steve Austen.

Over the 10-year life of this scholarship program, The Spaatz Association, through its members and benefactors, has awarded nearly \$50,000 to deserving CAP cadets.

Malachowski, who was flying with the Thunderbirds and unable to attend, provided rousing remarks via video. Speaking from the cockpit of her airborne "Thunderbird 3," she praised the men and women of the Air Force and CAP and credited the organization with playing a key role in her career success.



The Spaatz Association National President Maj. Steve Austen

Air Force Capt. Kim Campbell, aka "Killer Chick," thanks to her call letters KC, recalled a frightening moment when her A-10 Thunderbolt II was hit by enemy fire over Baghdad during Operation Iraqi Freedom and how the skills she first learned in CAP helped her get herself and her aircraft out of harm's way.

"As a CAP member, I learned the importance of memorization and attention to detail. When I got hit, I had a handful of jet and no time to pull out the checklist, but I knew exactly what I was supposed to do."

—Capt. Kim Campbell

“Many of my CAP experiences helped me get where I am today. CAP helped continue my passion for learning, but not just learning about the Air Force and aerospace education, but learning in general. And that is important for any career path our cadets might choose.”

—Capt. Nicole Malachowski

“I joined CAP 18 years ago,” she said. “Many of my CAP experiences helped me get where I am today. CAP helped continue my passion for learning, but not just learning about the Air Force and aerospace education, but learning in general. And that is important for any career path our cadets might choose.”

“To the senior CAP leaders out there, thank you very much for what you do,” she added. “Your guidance and education of young cadets is certainly vital to a strong nation. What you do is an honorable and noble thing.”

Campbell also credited CAP with her success and, in particular, with her ability to escape crashing her plane in a war zone.

“I got my first introduction to the military and flying from CAP,” said Campbell. “My time in the cadet program provided me with important skills and building blocks that were critical throughout my training and experiences. At age 16, when I soloed for the first time in a Cessna 152 at San Jose International Airport, I never imagined that

just 11 years later I would be flying a combat aircraft over hostile territory.”

Campbell, aka “Killer Chick,” thanks to her call sign KC, flies the A-10 Thunderbolt II, known as the Warthog. She gained fame when, during Operation Iraqi Freedom and while flying a mission over Baghdad on April 7, 2003, her Warthog was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire. Her A-10 sustained damage to one engine and to the redundant hydraulic systems, disabling the flight controls, landing gear and brakes and horizontal stabilizer. But, since the manual flight controls still worked, she was able to fly her crippled aircraft back to base, 100 miles away.

It’s a war story everyone wanted to hear more about, and she indulged the crowd with a moving account of her close call, but Campbell didn’t place all of her focus on the harrowing events of that day. Instead, she heaped praise on CAP’s



Capt. Nicole Malachowski recounted highlights of her career and encouraged cadets to focus on their education and stay away from drugs and alcohol.

cadet program, and highlighted the ways in which CAP shaped her as a pilot and a leader.

“So, what were some of the important lessons learned from my time in CAP? As a CAP member, I learned the importance of memorization and attention to detail. When I got hit, I had a handful of jet and no time to pull out the checklist, but I knew exactly what I was supposed to do,” she said.

“I also learned the importance of teamwork and working together to solve problems,” she said. “On that day, my flight lead was critical to providing mutual support in helping me get back home. Although these lessons were emphasized later in my training, I learned them first in CAP. Your work in this program is incredibly important, and I thank each of you for all that you do.”

After recognizing CAP cadets who have already established their legacies, three cadets just beginning to fulfill their potential — Lt. Cols.



Katherine Gresham, Gen. Tooeey Spaatz's granddaughter, shared personal anecdotes about her grandfather as a champion of today's Air Force and a loving leader of his family.

Spaatz's daughter, Carla Spaatz-Thomas, who endowed one of the scholarships, was also in attendance.



Russell Ahrens, Delaware Wing; Nathan Kish, Ohio Wing; and Quinton Fenley, Florida Wing — were recognized for their outstanding achievement with a 2006 Aerospace Leadership Scholarship.

“I was excited because that amount of money is going to cover a lot of flying time,” said Kish. “Also, because I am the first from

Ohio to get it.”

“The best part for me was getting to meet a lot of successful and professional people, from military officers to businessmen, and they all got their start in CAP,” said Kish.

“It was nice to interact with them and to see how they are all truly dedicated to the cadet program. That means a lot to us cadets.”

“For me, the highlight of the banquet was being able to meet the variety of other CAP members,” said Ahrens. “It was nice to mingle and talk with them. Plus, Kim Campbell was so interesting, and I got to meet Gen. (Antonio) Pineda, (CAP's national commander). That was a real honor.”

“I am just happy that someone thought I was deserving,” said Fenley, who was interviewed by phone. “It was overwhelming. I didn't really know what to do at first, but I know now, and I can't wait to further my flying.” ▲



CAP Cadet Lt. Col. Nathan Kish of the Ohio Wing was one of three recipients of a Spaatz Association Aerospace Leadership Scholarship. CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio Pineda presented Kish with his scholarship at the association's Fifth Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet on March 4.



The scholarship was also presented to Lt. Cols. Russell Ahrens, Delaware Wing, left, and Quinton Fenley, Florida Wing.





Credit: Marc Huchette, National Headquarters

Civil Air Patrol held its annual Legislative Day recently in Washington, D.C. The event brought together dozens of region and wing commanders and legislative liaison officers from across the nation. The members distributed annual reports to their legislators in Congress and requested the lawmakers' support of legislation pertinent to CAP. Legislative Day coincided with CAP's 2006 Civic Leadership Academy, which enabled CAP cadets to meet their legislators and learn about the U.S. government up close. Four cadets attending the academy also spoke at the luncheon. All attendees of the Legislative Day Luncheon heard CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda speak about and praise CAP's volunteer service in 2005.

From left, Lt. Col. Darrel Williamson, Indiana Wing; cadet Syed Mohammed Karim, Maryland Wing; and Indiana Wing Commander Col. John F. Bryan stand on the steps of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., with U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky, D-Ind. Visclosky also is a lieutenant colonel in CAP's Congressional Squadron.



Eye-Opening Experience

Cadets Hobnob in Washington

By Jennifer Kornegay

Here's the itinerary:

Oral arguments at the Supreme Court, a White House briefing, a meeting with CIA Director Porter Goss. Sounds like a schedule for Washington's top brass, and in a way it was.

Cream-of-the-crop cadets — 24 outstanding young men and women who were selected for Civil Air Patrol's 2006 Civic Leadership Academy — ran with the big dogs in Washington for a week in March and witnessed firsthand the inner workings of the federal government.

"I learned more about our government during the one week of Civic Leadership Academy than in an entire year at school ... things I could never get out of a textbook," said Daniel Ruffin, Ohio Wing.

"When we went to the State Department, we had a question-and-answer session with a lot of the diplomats running our campaigns in Iraq, Afghanistan, Israel and Palestine," Ruffin said. "We got to talk to them about why they make the decisions they do. We hear from the press so much about U.S. motives, but talking with the people who make the decisions shed some real light on it. It showed me they take a lot of time to think about their decisions. It gave me more trust in our government and the process.

"The whole experience gave me a real appreciation for how the system was designed and how flexible the framers made it so it still works today," he said, adding,

Left, Civic Leadership Academy cadets, photographed in front of the White House, got the unique opportunity to sit in on a White House briefing.

“I know that knowledge will help me in the future.”

“The other activities were awesome too,” said Danielle Roth, a Florida Wing cadet. “We went to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum and visited memorials. And we got to meet the deputy secretary of state. On CAP Legislative Day, we met with many congressional leaders and got to push the case for our bill (a benefits package for the families of CAP members injured or killed while working on an Air Force rescue mission). Each of us worked to gain co-sponsorship for the bill from our particular congressmen and congresswomen. We were like grassroots lobbyists. It was so neat to see how it all works.

“I think it is a very important and needed bill,” said Roth,” so it made me feel good to be able to support it in that way.”

Some of the cadets also had the unique opportunity to attend a council meeting of the Organization of American States, which is composed of the 35 independent nations of the Americas, similar to the United Nations.

“It was eye-opening to sit in on the OAS meeting,” said Roth.

“CLA was conceived in 2004 as an opportunity to bring cadets to Washington, D.C., to help them better understand our government and how it runs by giving them an in-depth and hands-on experience,” said Col. Amy Courter, the program’s activity director.

“The real key to success for CLA is to ensure the cadets engage in activities they couldn’t do on their own,” she added. “And, thanks to the enthusiasm and maturity exhibited by the cadets each year, the level of access keeps expanding.



The week’s activities included tours and briefings throughout Washington, D.C.



CIA Director Porter Goss gave each cadet a special memento of their visit — a CIA director’s coin.



Matt Giles of the California Wing poses at Arlington National Cemetery, one of innumerable sites on the cadets’ itinerary.

“We hear from the press so much about U.S. motives, but talking with the people who make the decisions shed some real light on it. ... It gave me more trust in our government and the process.” — Daniel Ruffin, Ohio Wing



Florida Wing cadets Danielle Roth, left, and Celeste Brewer take time out for a Kodak moment in front of the Supreme Court, where they observed oral arguments.

“The cadets have behaved wonderfully,” said Courter. “They’ve asked questions and taken full advantage of all the opportunities they had. Because of that, we have been able to expand the program year after year. Our contacts have been very impressed with the CLA cadets.”

CLA also provides the cadets one other cool benefit – career development.

“At CLA, they’re not just learning about government, but also how they can interact with government, how they can be involved and how to look for internship opportunities,” said Courter. “The program has a real career thread running through it. They see how accessible careers are to them regardless of where they live, and they learn how to prepare for those opportunities.”

“It is always a joy to see the cadets really grow and change from the CLA experience,” she added. “These are already great cadets; they come in with a lot of knowledge and appreciation of CAP, but to watch them grow during the week is amazing!” ▲

Col. Amy Courter, the Civic Leadership Academy’s activity director, right, presented Lt. Col. Sharon Storey, a former cadet now working with the CIA, with an Exceptional Service Award for her assistance in planning and coordinating the cadets’ CIA visit. At right is CIA Director Porter Goss and at left is CLA escort Lt. Col. Doug Dawson of the Tennessee Wing.



Civic Leadership Academy cadet Brian Slater of the Alaska Wing greets Don Young, a congressman who represents his home state.



Scholarships for Cadets

Academic Scholarships

Four types of academic scholarships are available to be used for tuition, books or room and board.

1. Undergraduate Scholarships
2. Advanced Undergraduate Scholarships
3. Graduate Scholarships
4. Technical/Vocational Scholarships

Other Scholarships

Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets
— NEW! Ten scholarships are available to cadets who enroll.

Auburn University Engineering —
Up to \$6,600. Scholarships are for cadets majoring in fiber engineering, textile chemistry or textile management and technology.

Dowling College School of Aviation —
One 1-year scholarship — \$8,000
Two 1-year scholarships — \$4,000

Order of Daedalians Flight Scholarships — Five \$2,100 scholarships available

USAF Chief of Staff Scholarship —
\$1,500 scholarship awarded to CAP's Cadet of the Year

Clara E. Livingston Cadet Scholarship
— \$4,000 educational scholarship for Puerto Rico cadets

General Aviation Flight Scholarships —
To help cadets attain a private pilot's license

The Spaatz Association Aerospace Leadership Scholarship

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SUCCESS STORY

National Commander Reports Volunteers' Extraordinary Work

"As you can see, CAP is protecting America's communities and supporting youth in towns and cities across America through its wide-reaching missions — emergency services, cadet programs and aerospace education."

**— National Commander
Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda**

Civil Air Patrol National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda proudly informed attendees of the 2005 Legislative Day Luncheon of volunteers' successful contributions to all CAP missions in 2005.

Speaking to wing commanders, board members, CAP corporate partners and U.S. legislators, the national commander noted CAP's heavy participation in hurricane relief, search and rescue, aerospace education, cadet programs and other critical CAP missions.

"CAP enjoyed a phenomenal year of service in 2005 that highlighted the bravery, sacrifice and patriotism of our Everyday Heroes," Pineda said.

"In fact, CAP's response to hurricane Katrina, Rita, Ophelia and Wilma — the largest in CAP's history — represented the first operational use of CAP by Joint and Air Force commanders," he said.

Pineda put great emphasis during his speech on the selflessness of CAP's membership, carefully noting the 1,800 volunteers from 17 states who put their own lives on hold to help hurricane victims.

He proudly reported volunteer

service in excess of 50,000 hours, the 1,000 air missions and 2,000 hours of flight time CAP aircrews compiled, the more than 2,000 time-critical aerial images taken of affected areas and the work of ground teams who visited 4,266 homes and made contact with more than 8,500 residents.

Pineda proudly noted the work of CAP members — who also distributed 30,000 pounds of relief supplies — was free of charge to U.S. citizens.

"Some of our members left their families and jobs to travel hundreds of miles at their own expense and, in some cases, risked their own lives to perform these 'Missions for America,'" he said.

The commander took great pleasure in reporting, as great as CAP hurricane relief efforts were, the volunteer service battling Mother Nature's devastating aftermath was only the tip of the iceberg.

Pineda also honored the CAP members whose search and rescue missions saved 73 lives, whose counterdrug efforts helped take millions of dollars of illegal drugs off U.S. streets and whose homeland security efforts in conjunction with



CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda and Col. Amy Courter, chair of CAP's Professional Development Committee, pause briefly for a photograph during Legislative Day activities in Washington, D.C. At the luncheon that took place in the House's Rayburn Building Gold Room, Pineda, below, spoke to National Board members, wing commanders, U.S. legislators and CAP corporate sponsors about CAP's "Missions for America." Courter served as the event's mistress of ceremonies.

the Air Force protected American citizens and property, as well as historic national landmarks.

"It should be noted these CAP services to communities and the nation cost taxpayers less than \$100 per hour per aircraft flown," he added.

Pineda also congratulated volunteers who support CAP's 22,650-member strong Cadet Program, as well as CAP's Aerospace Education Program.

He specifically noted the \$300,000 in scholarship opportunities CAP made available to cadets and the access CAP provided for youths to attend summer flight academies and 30 national programs that emphasize leadership, careers in aviation and flight training in powered and glider aircraft.

Pineda also spoke about the 400 educators and 394 units participating in CAP's Aerospace Excellence Program, which is reaching more

than 18,900 youth. He also lauded Aerospace Education Foundation grants, which helped 40 educators and 40 units promote aerospace education to more than 10,000 students and 5,000 cadets in 2005.

"As you can see, CAP is protecting America's communities and supporting youth in towns and cities across America through its wide-reaching missions – emergency services, cadet programs and aerospace education," he said.

In closing, the national commander tipped his hat to the nation's legislators, especially members of the CAP Congressional Squadron.

"I would like to once again thank the members of Congress assembled here. Without their support, CAP could not provide these vital 'Missions for America.' Wing commanders, thank you for your support as well," he said. ▲



Legislators Applaud CAP



During Civil Air Patrol's Legislative Day in Washington, D.C., six U.S. legislators — all members of the CAP Congressional Squadron — spoke about their appreciation and support of CAP. Below are excerpts from their comments.



Cadet commendation

“I’m hoping we can do more on the congressional side to help increase funding for important programs that allow our young Civil Air Patrol cadets to achieve their goals and their dreams. With your help, as members of the Civil Air Patrol, I’m sure the future of the Civil Air Patrol and its brightest days lie ahead of you.”

— *U.S. Representative and CAP Lt. Col. Jim Gibbons – Nevada, talking with Nevada Wing cadet Tiffani Heinrich*

Volunteer tribute

“As much as you do for the protection of the greatest nation in the history of the world, you also do something else. You prepare the hearts of the young people in this country to assume responsibility and to understand what the real core of freedom is all about.”

— *U.S. Representative and CAP Lt. Col. Trent Franks – Arizona*



CAP tops

“Civil Air Patrol, to me, is one of the finest educational service and preparation programs in this country. You should all be proud you are passing that legacy on, and I’m proud to continue to work with you to ensure the kind of resources we need to keep Civil Air Patrol at a functional and strong level. That’s something Congress needs to address, and, certainly, I’ll be one of those members who will work closely with you to make sure we address that.”

— *U.S. Representative and CAP Lt. Col. Raúl Grijalva – Arizona*





Commander's kudos

"This is my 22nd year in Civil Air Patrol, and I'm proud of that. I'm just about as proud of that as I am being a senator. I love the Civil Air Patrol. I love the history of it, the volunteerism. It seems every so often that something happens that reminds us – policymakers here in the Senate and the House – of the importance of Civil Air Patrol and what Civil Air Patrol does. When (hurricanes) Katrina and Rita hit, Civil Air Patrol came to the forefront, flew missions, knocked on doors and went out to find people who needed help. Even the secretary of the Air Force, on a couple of occasions, came out and commended the Civil Air Patrol for its wonderful work."

— *U.S. Senator and CAP Col. Tom Harkin, Commander of
CAP's Congressional Squadron – Iowa*

Sincere appreciation

"Whether you are a cadet or someone who spends a good bit of his or her time volunteering, or someone in the business community or simply concerned citizens, we say thank you for your involvement with the Civil Air Patrol."

— *U.S. Representative and CAP Lt. Col. J.D. Hayworth
– Arizona*



Salute to CAP youth

"The Civil Air Patrol is one of the best disciplinary programs for our youth in our state. For me to be an honorary member of your society, your group, your arena, is a true honor."

— *U.S. Representative and CAP Lt. Col. Rick Renzi – Arizona*

Legislative Day



Tennessee Wing Commander Col. James Rushing, right, meets with Rep. John J. Duncan Jr., R-Tenn., in Duncan's Washington, D.C., office. Duncan is a lieutenant colonel in the CAP Congressional Squadron.

Rhode Island Wing members Lt. Col. Gary Friedman, far left; wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Rui F. Rodrigues, second from left; Wing Commander Col. Augustine Comella, second from right; and Nick Cicchitelli, far right, a member of Sen. Jack Reed's staff, pose for a photo with Sen. Reed, D-R.I., middle, in his office.

Credits: Jim Tynan and Marc Huchette, National Headquarters



From left, CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Michael L. Dominguez, Wisconsin Wing Commander Col. Clair Jowett and Wisconsin Legislative Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Jeffrey Wiswell Sr. pause for a photograph.

Rep. John Kline, R-Minn., left, looks at a May issue of the "Civil Air Patrol Volunteer" presented to him by Col. Kevin Sliwinski of the Minnesota Wing. Kline is a lieutenant colonel in the CAP Congressional Squadron.



CAP Leadership Meets with Congressmen on the Hill



From left, standing, Pennsylvania Wing Executive Director Lt. Col. Bob Meinert; Pennsylvania Wing members 1st Lt. Llyn Carter, cadet Subee Jacob, cadet Damon Raynor and Capt. Katherine Smith; and Pennsylvania Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Mark Lee surround Rep. Charlie Dent, R-Pa., in his office.

Colorado Wing Commander Col. Greg Cortum presents a CAP cell phone holder to Rep. Bob Beauprez, R-Colo. Beauprez, a lieutenant colonel in the CAP Congressional Squadron, expressed his support of the CAP Homeland Security Benefit Act and thanked the Colorado members for their service.



South Dakota Wing Commander Col. Michael Beason, center, and Maryland Wing Cadet Colin Carmello talk with Sen. Tim Johnson, D-S.D., about the wing's ability to help with spotting wildfires.

CAP cadets Kelsey Aitchison, center, Wyoming Wing, and Robert Hawk, Utah Wing, ask Sen. Craig Thomas, R-Wyo., to co-sponsor the CAP Homeland Security Benefit Act.



BRIGHT FUTURES

Cadets Say CAP Prepared Them to Soar in Life

Civic Leadership Academy cadets A.J. Dunn, Rebekah Kepple, Binoy Patel and Tiffani Heinrich, all featured speakers during CAP's annual Legislative Luncheon held recently in Washington, D.C., told elected officials, wing commanders and other VIP guests how CAP has not only ignited their dreams of flight, but also prepared them for a lifetime of personal and professional success.

One by one, the audience heard how the lives of these youths — each spectacular already — had been beautifully shaped as a result of their association with CAP.

Cadet discovers leadership ability

National Capital Wing cadet A.J. Dunn discussed how CAP had taken him aloft to discover the joy of flight in gliders and powered aircraft, led him into nature for hikes and rappelling and taught him precious history through many color guard performances that honored the service of veterans.

Through CAP, the cadet said he soloed in a glider at age 14 and is now working toward a private glider license and soloing in a powered aircraft.

Dunn relayed that while he has enjoyed all of these activities, he learned perhaps an even more valuable lesson about himself: He could be a successful leader.

"The leadership traits we attain during our time as CAP cadets translate quite well into everyday life. I have been labeled as a leader in almost every group I belong to," said Dunn, cadet commander of the Arlington Cadet Squadron.

Whereas Dunn discovered he could lead, Kepple of the Iowa Wing found fortitude.

CAP emboldens cadet

For her, the future really is now. Kepple has already received her appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy and will start basic training June 29.

But believe it or not, Kepple told the attentive crowd gathered for the luncheon she wasn't ready to soar when she first joined CAP. She said she was shy and quiet then, but her confidence grew as she accepted the challenges CAP membership offered.

"For my first command position, I was in charge of 15 girls for a week — and it wasn't even the position I expected," Kepple said.

"It was situations like this, though — pushing me beyond what I thought I could handle — that have been the most valuable to me," she said.

Interestingly, Kepple's experience in CAP has included a tour of the Air Force Weather Agency, the very same agency the cadet aspires to work for as an Air Force weather officer.

Like Dunn, Kepple told how CAP has brought her wonderful friends and the "best times" of her life, but, "more importantly," as she put it, "the development of character traits such as leadership, responsibility, maturity, discipline and self-confidence.

"I can hardly imagine what my life would be like now if I had not become involved in CAP," she concluded.

Cadet wiser thanks to CAP

Patel of the Florida Wing agrees with Kepple, and he can express his approval in six languages.

While Patel didn't recite his entire speech in each tongue, he certainly wowed the luncheon audience with

his account of his CAP experience.

Patel told how CAP Cadet Officer School prepared him for the business world and life in general by training him in upper-level management, time management and the importance of teamwork.

"We were taught numerous classes on public speaking, meeting etiquette, negotiations and duty by some of the most distinctive and prominent speakers from the U.S. Air Force and the private sector," the high school senior and, simultaneously, college junior told the audience.

Patel also revealed the organization has taught him, like his peers, about living a good life.

"CAP has provided me with training in leadership, integrity, morality, aviation, politics, ultimately everything that makes one a wiser human being," he said.

While Patel is set to soar in life, one of his peers is ready to soar to the moon.

Cadet ready for jet wings

Speaking of moons, Heinrich started out flying Moonies and Cessnas in CAP, but she's anxious to

pull Gs now.

"I decided to become a pilot due to the fact I like speed and also thanks to the lessons in aviation I have learned through CAP," Heinrich told the gathering.

But even though she is ready to advance to faster aircraft, she expressed immense appreciation that CAP had already met and exceeded many of her greatest aviation dreams.

Not only did she tell about flying the Moonies and Cessnas, but she also shared her experience flying in a Navy T-28 trainer jet while taking part in the National Blue Beret Academy in Oshkosh, Wis.

It was there that Heinrich's dreams of soaring like a rocket suddenly solidified when the pilot allowed her to take control of the jet.

To the utter amusement of the audience, however, the cadet related that her only problem with the ride was that 250 mph wasn't fast enough.

So, buoyed by seeing the Thunderbirds fly for the first time and even having dinner with Air Force Capt. Nicole Malachowski, the former CAP cadet and first

A.J. Dunn of Arlington, Va., spoke about how CAP helped him learn to fly and to soar in life. He said thanks to CAP, he is a confident young adult who has learned to lead groups, prioritize tasks and cope with the hustle and bustle of an extremely busy schedule.



Rebekah Kepple of Evansdale, Iowa, will enter the U.S. Air Force Academy this summer. She told an attentive audience how CAP transformed her from a shy youth into a leader ready to become an Air Force officer.

Tiffani Heinrich of Las Vegas plans to become the next female Air Force Thunderbird pilot. Training in Cessnas and Moonies while a CAP cadet convinced her she is ready to advance to supersonic jets.



Binoy Patel of Fort Pierce, Fla., said CAP has changed his life. During his speech, the well-traveled cadet said he has not found a single country that "matches the caliber of training Civil Air Patrol provides its members."

female Thunderbird pilot, Heinrich said she has decided she wants to be the next female Thunderbird pilot.

Ambitious as she and her peers are, though, Heinrich knows she owes a debt of gratitude to a lot of senior members and to an organization dear to her heart.

In fact, her final words summed up well the warm

feelings of each speaker: "I feel I was given these opportunities for a reason, and it was all brought together through Civil Air Patrol. Without it I would have never learned about aviation and set the goals I have set now," she said. ▲

A Family Tradition

CAP Service Unites Family

When Cadet Capt. A.J. Dunn joined CAP, he kept alive a family tradition much more extensive than one can imagine.

His great-grandmother was 2nd Lt. Cora Sadler Payne, a Louisiana Wing member for three years in the mid-'80s.

His great-grandmother's first cousin was Dr. Emma Sadler Moss, a Louisiana Wing member during World War II in the early '40s.

His grand-uncle, cadet William Minor Payne II, served in CAP in the '60s while at Saint John's Military School in Salina, Kan.

His grand-aunt, cadet Catharine Louise Payne, served from 1956-'60.

His grandmother, Lt. Col. Charlotte Payne Wright has been going strong in CAP since 1956.

And, his mother, Lt. Col. Beth Dunn, currently serves as the National Capital Wing's chief of staff and director of cadet programs. A member since 1975, Beth earned her Gen. Billy Mitchell Award in 1978.

A family tree with CAP roots that strong is bound to thrive! That's why cadet Dunn owes a lot of his CAP success to his closest kin, his grandmother and mother.

"My daughter went to her first CAP meeting when she was 6 weeks old. A.J. was just a bit older," said Wright, a Gill Robb Wilson Award winner who has served as a director of professional development and director of finance.

"She (Beth) went on to complete the cadet training program, earning the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award in 1984 and the Gill Robb Wilson Award," Wright said.

Dunn's mother is careful to give her son full credit for achieving success in CAP on his own.

"A.J. has emphasized the leadership portion of training and, as a result, he has a certain amount of poise," she said.

"He's gotten so much out of it.



From left, Lt. Col. Charlotte Payne Wright, Lt. Col. Beth Dunn and Cadet Capt. A.J. Dunn display their CAP cadet program training awards. Wright earned her Cadet Certificate of Proficiency in 1958, Lt. Col. Dunn earned her Gen. Billy Mitchell Award 20 years later and cadet Dunn followed with his Gen. Billy Mitchell Award in 2004.

I'm very proud of him," she added.

Now the only question is, "Will cadet Dunn pass on the family tradition?"

That is likely, but the Amelia Earhart and Gen. Billy Mitchell Award recipient is busy enough right now serving as cadet commander of the Arlington Cadet Squadron, learning to fly (he's already soloed in gliders) and training intensively for high school swim meets.

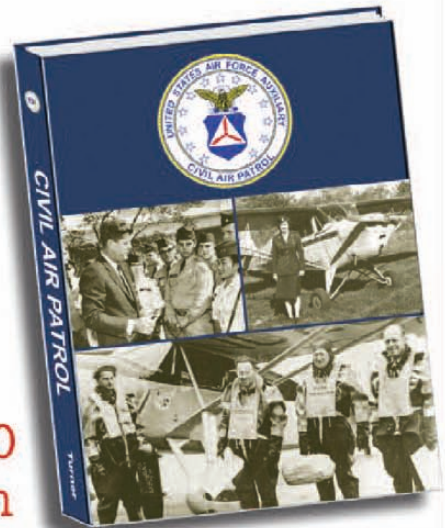
"My mom has let me take advantage of every opportunity CAP has offered. I've gotten a lot out of these opportunities, and I would like to do the same for my kids," he said. ▲

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
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Highest Honor



Medals Recognize Valor of CAP Leaders



Credit: Jim Tynan, National Headquarters

Civil Air Patrol National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda, Florida Wing Commander Col. Daniel J. Levitch and Florida Wing Vice Commander Col. Eileen L. Parker were honored during CAP's Winter National Board meeting for their assistance to victims of an automobile accident in 2005.

The three CAP members earned CAP's highest honor, the Silver Medal of Valor, for risking their lives to help four people whose van overturned Sept. 7, 2005, on Interstate 10 near Tallahassee, Fla.

Pineda, Levitch and Parker were driving to the Jacksonville Airport and had just eaten lunch when they

suddenly came upon the crashed vehicle.

"There were four people trapped inside – a grandmother, a mother and two children – and they had just come back from Disney World," Parker said.

The trio immediately employed CAP training in disaster response and emergency services to calm the crash victims and ensure traffic safety around the accident scene.

"The important thing at the time was to keep everybody calm so they could relax and know they were alive and they were OK," Parker said.

While Parker did just that – even finding a stuffed animal that a little girl inside the van needed for comfort – the trio completely managed the entire situation until military and local authorities arrived.

While Pineda directed traffic around the accident, Levitch pulled three of the victims out of the van (the fourth, the grandmother, was deemed unsafe to move) and passed them to Parker, who laid them in the grass away from the van.

Parker wrapped the grandmother's hand to control the bleeding, and, once the victims were out of danger, Levitch and Parker spoke to them, allaying their fears and comforting them as much as possible.

When a state trooper arrived, Pineda briefed him and the CAP trio departed.

"If it weren't for the training we

From left, CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda, Florida Wing Commander Col. Daniel J. Levitch and Florida Wing Vice Commander Col. Eileen L. Parker are photographed during the Silver Medal of Valor presentation at CAP's Winter National Board meeting in Washington, D.C. Each received the Silver Medal of Valor for helping victims of an automobile accident in Florida.

received in CAP, the tendency might have been to just say, 'Somebody else will come along or we're in a hurry to get to the airport or it's not my job,' but it was just there, it needed to be done and I'm glad we were there. I'm more honored that I was able to help," said Parker.

All three members were sorry the van overturned, but glad they were able to contribute to the aid of the victims.

"It always feels good to be able to help people, especially when they're in distress. I'm just glad we were there to be able to help these people out," Pineda said. ▲

— CAP 1st Lt. Gail Swanson, Florida Wing director of marketing and public relations, contributed to this story.

"... it needed to be done and I'm glad we were there."

— Col. Eileen Parker

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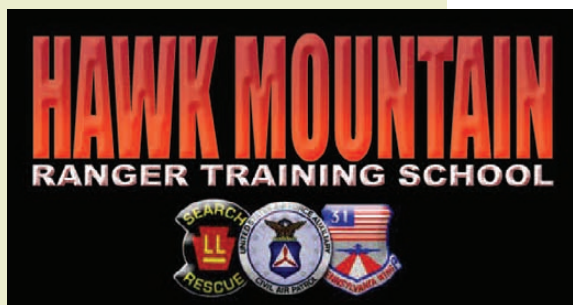
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Hawk Mountain Ranger Program Celebrates 50 Years of Service

By Maj. Anne Gibbons



The Ranger Creed

It is my duty, as a member of the rangers of the Civil Air Patrol ground search and rescue service, to save lives, aid the injured and protect their property. In order to do this, I will keep myself physically fit at all times. I will be prepared at all times to perform my assigned duties quickly and efficiently, placing these duties before my personal desires and comfort. These things I do that others may live.

It's an outdoor school held in the wilderness where there are no modern conveniences — no electricity, no phone service and no beds. Students sleep in tents, rain or shine, and

though they are allowed to take a shower, it is available in cold water only.

Welcome to the Civil Air Patrol's Hawk Mountain Ranger Training School, the longest running search and rescue school in the nation, where for the past 50 years, over 12,500 senior and cadet members representing all of CAP's 52 wings have honed their SAR, field leadership and survival skills.

"The school is very demanding physically and mentally and conditions are primitive," said Maj. Herb Cahalen, the school's commander, "but it is also the most rewarding activity CAP has to offer."

Participants take basic and advance courses that cover such topics as crash-site procedures, map reading, survival skills and killing and preparing small wild game, as well as rescue techniques, air-to-ground coordination, casualty evacuation and rappelling (a process for

descending from a cliff by sliding down a rope). Wilderness first aid is also provided as initial instruction for rangers who aspire to become medics.

The courses are nine days long, but the experience lasts a lifetime. Air Force Reserve Lt. Col. Lynn Smith Gemperle can attest to that. She was one of the first female cadets to attend the program in the early 1970s.

"I don't think there's a day that goes by that I don't use something I learned at Hawk. It really gave me the opportunity to work with a variety of people at a young age," she said.

"I chose to join the Army and the Special Forces," said Maj. Ed Gibbons, a retired lieutenant colonel who served in the Army for 27 years, including three tours in Vietnam. "What I learned at Hawk Mountain as a cadet helped carry me through those experiences. The program influenced my life. It's the first time I realized that what I do affects whether others live or die. I learned to put my own comforts second."

"My Hawk Mountain experience taught me about teamwork and *esprit de corps*," said Capt. Charles Wedge, commander of Pennsylvania



Wing's Lawrence County Composite Squadron. "When you thought you couldn't move or take another step, your fellow cadets were there for you, and you for them. This is what helped me make it through Vietnam."

"The friends I have kept in the long term have nearly all been through Hawk," said former cadet Ralph Jones, now a captain and surgeon in the U.S. Navy and third in command of the USS Comfort. "I think that has something to do with sharing altruistic ideals, the selflessness and salt-of-the-earth nature of people who drive the search and rescue engine. Everyone involved brings a skill, a drive, a need and the desire to help someone. It is a really weird thing, but the brotherhood is deep. I have run into gradu-

ates of the ranger program throughout my Navy career. When you identify yourself as a graduate of Hawk, it is like a society other people can't grasp, but it is instant recognition of trust and credibility."

The program began in 1953 at Westover Air Force Base, Mass., in response to the need for ground support for air search missions. Former Pennsylvania Wing Commander Col. John Neuweiler and Chaplain (Col.) John Weaver, who became the

In this vintage photo, circa 1965, fourth-year students pose with their instructor, then 1st Lt. Thomas Jensen, top right, who is still actively associated with the Hawk Mountain program.

first Hawk Mountain Summer Survival School's commander, are credited with its development.

Because of the students' dedication, motivation and enthusiasm, the instructors called them rangers, and

"The program influenced my life. It's the first time I realized that what I do affects whether others live or die. I learned to put my own comforts second." — Retired Lt. Col. Ed Gibbons, U.S. Army



Top, a ranger team in 2003 hones their slope-rescue skills.

Bottom, the first female squadron, shown here preparing for an exercise, attended Hawk Mountain in 1972.

the name has remained ever since.

In 1956, the school was moved to Neuweiler's property at Hawk Mountain. The pine swamp in the middle of a box canyon was the perfect locale for search teams to live and train.

The school has had some exciting moments over the years, including nine straight days of rain and occasional lightning strikes. In the 1970s, Mohammad Ali, whose training camp was nearby, visited and sparred with the students. In the 1980s, Lt. Col. Ron Rosepink, a former CAP member, expert hot air balloonist and U.S. Air Force test pilot, made a grand appearance on the parade field in his hot air balloon. And, Terry Hawes, a CAP Hawk graduate and U.S. Army helicopter pilot, dazzled students when he landed a Blackhawk helicopter on the parade field. ▲



50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

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Members of Civil Air Patrol's California Wing participate in a Memorial Day tribute to Gill Robb Wilson, who was instrumental in creation of the Civil Air Patrol in 1941.

CAP Pays Tribute to Founding Father

By Lt. Col. Charles Wiest

On Memorial Day, members of Civil Air Patrol's California Wing gathered at the gravesite of Gill Robb Wilson at Forest Lawn Covina Hills, Calif., to pay tribute to the renowned pilot, poet and lifelong proponent of aviation who was instrumental in creation of CAP on Dec. 1, 1941. The ceremony has been a tradition in the California Wing for more than three decades.

In the final paragraph of his autobiography, "I Walked With Giants," Wilson immortalized his role in CAP's history: "As for my own part in conceiving and founding CAP, I can only note that I had a unique opportunity to foresee coming events and was in a responsible position to do something about it. If I did play some part, it was because I was sur-

rounded by giants of great spirit who gave me their confidence and upheld my hands. To have walked proudly with them is all the credit I need or want. ... It was those who succeeded me who hewed out the greater destiny of Civil Air Patrol."

Wilson, who was awarded the French Croix de Guerre and other combat decorations for his service during World War I, served as New Jersey's director of aviation prior to becoming a war correspondent for *The Herald Tribune* during World War II. In 1938, he organized the Civil Air Defense Service in New Jersey. He also campaigned tirelessly for creation of a national civil air arm to support the looming war. His success in the latter endeavor resulted in creation of CAP and in his appointment as the organiza-

tion's first executive officer.

Wilson also helped found the Aircraft Owner's and Pilots Association, and for his service to AOPA the group awarded him membership No. 1. In addition, he was a charter member of the American Legion and the Air Force Association, and he served as AFA national president in 1956 and as chairman of the board in 1957. He was named president of the new National Aeronautic Association in 1940, and in 1958 the association presented him its "Elder Statesman of Aviation Award." For his efforts to promote American aviation, he was awarded the NAA's Frank G. Brewer Trophy in 1965.

Wilson served as editor and publisher of *Flying* magazine from 1952 until his retirement in 1962; he died on Sept. 8, 1966. ▲

Unforgettable!

2006 RWCC Class Gains Knowledge, Memories from Course

Twenty-two senior Civil Air Patrol leaders graduated recently from the 2006 Region & Wing Commanders Course, an intense week of study designed to help current and future commanders transition to senior leadership positions.

The senior members came to CAP National Headquarters at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala., from states across the nation.



Attendees of the 2006 Region & Wing Commanders Course work at laptop computers in the main conference room at CAP National Headquarters at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Credit: Rob Smith, National Headquarters

The multilayered instruction included lectures, seminars and class projects led by professionals within and from outside headquarters.

All participants graduated with a greater confidence in their ability to lead their wings and regions.

Maine Wing Vice Commander Maj. Christopher Hayden was among 22 participants who were awed by the “fire hose” of information.

Col. Rick Greenhut, CAP’s special advisor to the national commander for Homeland Security/Counterdrug and the course’s first-ever senior fellow participant, applauded the training.

An RWCC graduate who has held posts as wing and region commander, Greenhut served as a mentor to ensure participants understood the



Greenhut

connection between theory and the real-world issues they will face.

“Both the quality of the course and the quality of the commanders have continued to improve dramatically over the years. For the first time, this course is pure professional military education. It started conceptually, it had specific building blocks and the course had a clear goal,” Greenhut said.

“Most impressively, the theoretical and the practical tied together. By the last day, not only had the class really bonded, but they came away with tools they could use both within CAP as new commanders as well as in their real lives and their



jobs,” he said.

The tools to which Greenhut referred included lectures on multiple aspects of leadership, including understanding how to interact with wing members in a positive way and appreciating the importance of integrity in decision making.

Several members like Illinois Wing Commander Col. Maurice Givens specifically praised the instruction they received on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, which covered how varying personality types can affect an organization.

“We learned to look at an overview – a place where we want to be in the long term – and determine how we’re going to get there. The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator showed us how to work with our fellow people and to know what they’re like,” Givens said.

Other classes offered the commanders knowledge and unforgettable memories.

Retired Air Force Col. John Warden, now president of Venturist Inc., a management consulting firm, introduced the commanders to his Prometheus Process, a planning strategy first employed during the air campaign of the 1991 Gulf War.

The strategy resonated for Rocky Mountain Region Vice Commander Col. Bob Cook.

“It was universally applied not only to the military but also to any kind of leadership environment where

Participants gathered for a photograph in front of CAP National Headquarters shortly before their graduation.

you’re trying to deal with a problem that is impeding progress within an organization,” Cook said.

For several members, meeting Warden was one of the highlights of the week. Warden spent a morning with the class and he autographed copies of his book, “Winning in Fast Time,” a textbook each class member received from during the course.

The eventful week passed quickly for the participants, who were applauded at their graduation by CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda, CAP Executive Director Don Rowland and CAP-U.S. Air Force Commander Col. Russell D. Hodgkins Jr.

Pineda said an already strong group of CAP commanders was now ready to reach even greater heights in the organization.

“I feel great about this group. They brought forth some outstanding ideas and solutions. I think they’re going to go out and do a super job for us,” Pineda said.

Rowland agreed.

“I’m excited for them, and I hope they found the coursework helpful and the hospitality very warm. I hope they’re even better prepared now to lead the volunteers of Civil Air Patrol,” he said. ▲

In Their Own Words

Graduates Reflect on 2006 RWCC



Col. John F. Bryan,
Indiana Wing
commander

"It reinforced, for me, the concept of being an outside-the-box thinker. In one class, we talked about designing a future picture and then working our way backward.

When I came home, I sat down with the incoming command staff, and I shared that with them. I said, 'You know, we've been talking about where we want to go. Why don't we take that a little bit further and try this method and take it backward,' and we did that and it gave us several ideas about how to facilitate the middle."



Class Leader Col.
Russell E. Chazell,
Rocky Mountain
Region commander

"I frankly thought it was the best course I've ever been to in CAP. The planning and organization were outstanding, and the written materials, lectures and speakers were top notch. I was very impressed.

"I particularly enjoyed the MBTI (Myers-Briggs Type Indicator) training and Marcia Ledlow's 'Concepts for Leading Volunteers.' Being able to understand personality types and motivation are very important, I think, to being effective."



Col. Carl L. Brown,
Alaska Wing
commander

"The content, amount of information and most of all, the high degree of professionalism by the national headquarters staff and speakers were most impressive. I always had a sense of the responsibilities

of the upper command levels, but sometimes it takes a good look from 'inside the box' to fully appreciate the full magnitude of the job. The staff succeeded in presenting that inside view.

"Overall, I felt fired-up to return to my wing and get people motivated."

2006 REGION & WING COMMANDERS COURSE GRADUATES AND PARTICIPANTS

Senior Fellow Col. Richard A. Greenhut, special adviser to the national commander for Homeland Security/Counterdrug

Class Leader Col. Russell E. Chazell, Rocky Mountain
Region commander

Col. Michael A. Beason, South Dakota Wing commander

Col. David A. Belcher, Massachusetts Wing commander

Col. Robert M. Bost, Utah Wing commander

Col. Ernest R. Bourgeois, Arizona Wing commander

Col. Carl L. Brown, Alaska Wing commander

Col. John F. Bryan, Indiana Wing commander

Col. Augustine Comella, Rhode Island Wing commander

Col. Robert E. Cook, Rocky Mountain Region vice commander

Col. Sean P. Fagan, Missouri Wing commander

Col. Maurice Givens, Illinois Wing commander

Col. Peter Jensen, Connecticut Wing commander

Col. Theodore S. Kyle, Oregon Wing commander

Col. Daniel J. Levitch, Florida Wing commander

Col. Robert J. McCabe, New Jersey Wing commander

Col. Rodney A. Moore, West Virginia Wing commander

Col. Michael A. Oakman, Alabama Wing commander

Col. Emerson Smith, South Carolina Wing commander

Col. Robert K. Todd, Nebraska Wing commander

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ralph E. Rivers, deputy chief of CAP Chaplain Service

Maj. Christopher J. Hayden, Maine Wing vice commander

Service Before Self



New Award Honors Members Who Redefine Sacrifice

Three Civil Air Patrol wings received the new National Commander's Unit Citation during CAP's Winter National Board meeting in Washington, D.C.

Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda presented the new honor to the Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas wings for their service this past hurricane season in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Mississippi Wing Commander Col. John Wilkes, Louisiana Wing Commander Col. Rodney Ammons and Texas Wing Commander Col. Frank Eldridge all accepted the award for their wings.

"When the hurricanes hit, members of these wings left their own homes, leaving them behind in shambles, and went to work for CAP to assist other people in distress," Pineda said.

Pineda said he conceived the award while visiting Mississippi, where he first encountered members serving CAP, even though their own homes were damaged.

He then learned of similar valor within the Texas and Louisiana wings.

"This award is for units that go way beyond what they are supposed to be doing to help mankind," Pineda said.

Unlike CAP's current Unit Citation, the National Commander's Unit Citation gives CAP's top official the ability to award the honor to a unit on the spot without National Board approval.

Ammons said the award honors the exceptional service of Louisiana Wing members.

"Numerous Louisiana Wing members put aside their distressed, personal circumstances to be involved in the intense aerial sorties flown into the Louisiana areas impacted by the hurricanes. These were true examples that exemplify the 'service before self' tradition of



Ammons

CAP volunteers throughout the nation," Ammons said.

Wilkes said the recognition of members in the Mississippi Wing was well deserved.



Wilkes

"I am proud of the wing's preparation for the storm and its actions after the storm. Despite tremendous damage, the wing lost no people to death or injury and had no airplanes or vehicles damaged. This allowed our members to concentrate on helping others during the aftermath," Wilkes said.

In Mississippi, many CAP members serving were, in fact, from Texas.

"Even though Katrina, the first hurricane, did not reach Texas, our members came forward to volunteer in any way they could," said Eldridge.

In fact, the wing commander said more than 92 members representing 15 units assisted in Texas, as well as in Mississippi and Louisiana when Katrina hit.

Then, uninvited, Rita stormed in, and over 150 members — cadets and seniors — from 37 units activated and served, Eldridge said.

Pineda said he looks forward to other opportunities to reward wings that show similar exemplary service in their communities.

"One of CAP's fundamental goals will always be to serve communities in need, whether it is due to hurricanes, fires, tornadoes or any other disaster. When our members demonstrate the ultimate sacrifice, it will be my honor to ensure they receive the highest recognition available," he said. ▲



Eldridge

Member Honored at Indiana Statehouse

A sponsored resolution in both the Indiana House and Senate was recently conferred on Col. Charles Greenwood for his four-year leadership as commander of the Indiana Wing. Greenwood's team is credited with recruiting 100 members of the House and 50 members of the Senate as members of the Indiana Wing Legislative Squadron, considered to be CAP's largest legislative squadron. Greenwood's service was also recognized when he received the CAP Distinguished Service Medal and the Gill Robb Wilson Award, CAP's highest senior member award. ▲



Col. Charles Greenwood, middle in CAP uniform, recently received much-deserved recognition.

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Hildreth Honored for 50 years of Service

By Victoria Terrinoni

"I was one of the few who did not serve as a wing commander before making colonel," said Jack Hildreth, who was recently honored for 50 years of service in CAP.



Credit: Jim Tynan, National Headquarters

Col. Jack Hildreth, 66, of CAP's National Membership Unit, was honored for 50 years of service during the Winter National Board held in March in Washington, D.C.

Hildreth, who lives in Seymour, Ind., began his career with the Seymour Composite Squadron in April 1955. The squadron was formed in October 1954. He was 15 years old and a sophomore in high school when he joined as a cadet basic.

After finishing college, Hildreth transferred to senior membership, left the squadron and went to work for the Indiana Wing Headquarters as a search and rescue training officer.

Over the years he has held many other positions, including wing inspector, wing executive officer, region assistant director of communications and regional director of communications. In addition, he

has twice chaired the National Communications Committee, and he has served as communications adviser to the national commander. Recently, he chaired the National Communications Subcommittee.

A pilot with more than 40 years experience, Hildreth has also flown many CAP search missions. He said one of the things he is most proud of is CAP's dedication to teaching youth about all aspects of aviation.

His service has been recognized with many awards and recognitions, including the Exceptional Service award, two Meritorious Service awards and the National Commander's Commendation.

Hildreth said he has experienced many memorable moments in CAP over the past 50 years, but the one that stands out the most is meeting his wife, Jean, at a Great Lakes Region conference in French Lick, Ind., in

Col. Jack Hildreth, right, receives a plaque honoring his 50 years of service in CAP from National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda.

1964. She was a member of the Wisconsin Wing at the time. They have been married nearly 41 years.

Of all the people he has known and worked for, Hildreth said former Indiana Wing Commander Col. John Richards was the most influential. "He took me under his wing and taught me, guided me and got me moving," he said.

Program growth, technical advancements and enhanced member professionalism are the three most significant changes Hildreth said he has witnessed in CAP over the past five decades. The changes have helped him grow and contribute to the organization as well, he said. ▲

New Safety Officer Sets Ground Rules



Col. Lyle Letteer is currently working to complete his doctoral dissertation on engineering safety.

“My goal is zero tolerance as far as safety and accidents are concerned.”

— CAP National Safety Officer
Col. Lyle Letteer

CAP’s new national safety officer, Col. Lyle Letteer, has one simple goal for his tenure in the position: Make safety the first thing each CAP member thinks about, every time and all the time.

“I want to inspire every CAP member to instill safety and operational risk management processes into their daily thought process,” Letteer said. “I want them all to start with the understanding that every day when they look in the mirror, they are looking at the person most responsible for their safety.”

“I didn’t see myself holding this position five years ago, but I have been constantly working toward it,” said Letteer. “I received my bachelor’s degree in professional aeronautics with an undergraduate certificate in safety and my master’s in aeronautical science with a graduate certificate in safety, both from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. I am now working on my doctorate, finishing my dissertation on engineering safety.

“I am working to be the most qualified safety officer CAP could have,” he added. “My goal is zero tolerance as far as safety and accidents are concerned.”

Letteer said he will work in close partnership with CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda and wing commanders and safety officers across the country to implement programs that reinforce the importance of safety relative to every aspect of CAP’s missions. One technique he plans to use is the dissemination of monthly electronic video safety briefings.

Letteer reiterated his belief that reaching each individual CAP member with his safety message is the way to make the entire organization safer.

“Every member needs to stop — every time they are doing something — and ask the questions: ‘What are the possible results of this action?’ and ‘Can I get hurt or can someone else get hurt?’ The bottom line is this: We want all of our members safe. We never want anyone hurt or anything destroyed. So, we focus on safety.” ▲

Set to Lead

CAP Appoints New Region, Wing Commanders

By Victoria Terrinoni

The Civil Air Patrol has announced the appointment of two new region commanders — Col. John Tilton of Alabama, Southeast Region, and Col. Kay Joslin Walling of Maryland, Middle East Region. In addition, four new wing commanders were named — Cols. John F. Bryan, Peter Jensen, Michael Oakman and Aurel E. Smith.

In addition to serving as the Alabama Wing commander, Tilton's CAP background includes service as vice wing commander, wing maintenance officer, squadron safety officer, check pilot, instructor pilot, mission pilot and mission safety officer.

For Tilton, being appointed Alabama Wing commander was the most memorable moment of his career: "Being singled out to be in charge of a whole wing and to shape policies and improve on my predecessors' accomplishments was important to me," he said.

Tilton said he envisions the region improving standardization: "With the hurricanes last year, we now know we need to concentrate on radio communications in disasters and supporting each other with personnel and equipment," he said.

Walling's previous positions include service as Maryland Wing commander, public affairs officer for both the Mississippi and Maryland wings and executive officer and deputy commander for a Mississippi Wing encampment. In addition, she has served as commander of the East-on Composite Squadron and the squadron's deputy commander of cadets. For six years, she served on the Cadet Officer School staff. Walling is mission rated as a public information officer, ground team member, mission radio operator, air branch operations director and mission pilot.

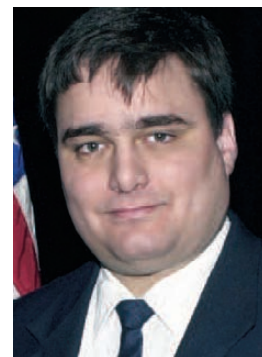
Walling said she can't pick one single position that led her to her new position. "Each has contributed to the whole," she said.

"CAP is changing," she added. "As much as it is going back to its roots, it is changing with new technology and the ability to act on a national scale, and it is going to require a change in the way we do business."

Bryan, 31, the new commander of the Indiana Wing, may be the



Smith



Bryan



Jensen



Oakman

Set to Lead



Tilton



Walling

youngest wing commander ever chosen.

Bryan's illustrious CAP career includes service on cadet advisory councils at the state, region and national levels; he earned the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award in 1995.

As a senior member, he has been a squadron commander, an assistant inspector general, an inspector general, a safety officer and director of aerospace education. He has also served as wing chief of staff. He returned to the squadron level to help a squadron that was having problems prior to being appointed wing commander.

Bryan said he is developing plans to charter new units, especially under the schools program, and he has formed a relationship with state legislators and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, which are looking at spending \$38,000 to purchase satellite digital-imaging systems for two CAP aircraft.

Jensen, who assumed command of the Connecticut Wing, has served CAP as a Virginia Wing mission transport pilot, finance officer, webmaster and historian. In the Northeast Region, he was the director of personnel and the government relations adviser. He is a senior career member of the U.S. Foreign Service, currently assigned to the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York. Jensen says he plans to forge a closer relationship with state emergency management officials and increase the breadth and scope of CAP's

missions in Connecticut.

Oakman, Alabama Wing's commander, has served as the wing's counterdrug officer, squadron commander and special projects officer. He said he thinks he made it to the commander's position by his willingness to stay with the program through the hard times and the good times.

"I, too, came into the CAP wanting to fly and be a part of the community. But when I got into it, I realized I wanted to get to this point," he said.

As wing commander, Oakman said he wants to get back to basics and to emphasize leadership, communications and training at the squadron level.

Smith is the new commander of the South Carolina Wing. Initially a wing public affairs officer, Smith has also served as a standardization-evaluation officer, vice wing commander and mission pilot.

"I try to work with people rather than tell them what to do," said Smith of his management style.

This includes, he added, encouraging people to be problem solvers.

Smith said improving the wing's retention rate is also a top priority. He plans to make sure each member has a job, "because I've found, if they have a job, they will stay in CAP. A lot of people talk about increasing membership, but I would rather focus on retention," he said. ▲

Putting a Face with a Name

CAP Members Soon to Enjoy Photo Membership Card



Civil Air Patrol members will soon enjoy photo membership cards, thanks to recent approval by the U.S. Air Force.

The new cards have been sought for years. Members have always had membership cards, but not ones that displayed their photographs.

Susie Parker, deputy director of Personnel & Membership Services at CAP National Headquarters, said members have long been concerned that the current membership card did not provide a professional image when working with local, state and federal agencies.

"Since 9/11, many of our customers, whether they are the Forestry Service, the DEA or Customs, have been looking for picture verification of our membership. This new card will ease our members' ability to work with these agencies," Parker said.

The new cards are optional and will cost \$4 each. Unlike the other membership card, this one will be the property of CAP rather than of

members. Members will be required to turn in their card if they choose to leave CAP.

CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Pineda said the benefit of the cards far outweighs the cost of producing them.

"We now have a professional-looking ID card our members will be proud of showing and that will identify them as CAP members," Pineda said.

To begin creation of their new card, members must log on to e-Services at CAP's Web site (www.cap.gov) and prepurchase a card by selecting "purchase picture membership card" on the left side of the e-Services home screen. Only cadets and active senior members are eligible to receive the new card.

Members who prepurchased a card will be notified to upload a picture in e-Services. Unit commanders must validate the member's photo before a new membership card can be produced.

Michelle Yost, deputy director of

CAP members will soon have a new membership card – similar to the one above – that includes their photo. The cards are optional and will cost \$4.

Information Technology at National Headquarters, said members can preorder cards now, but card production is currently pending the selection of a contractor to produce them.

"Until the details are finalized with the contractor, we cannot tell members if the photos currently in the system for the 101 card will work for the new membership card. As soon as photo requirements are nailed down, we'll notify every one who has prepurchased a card," she said.

CAP-U.S. Air Force Commander Col. Russell D. Hodgkins Jr. praised the new card.

"Members will benefit because they will now have a high-quality ID card that will represent their pride in CAP," he said. ▲

Achievements



Distinguished Service Medal

The Distinguished Service Medal is awarded for conspicuous performance of outstanding service in a duty of great responsibility where the position held and results obtained reflect upon the accomplishments and prestige of CAP on a national scale. The recipient for February is Col. John E. Tilton, Alabama Wing.



Gill Robb Wilson Award

Highest award given to senior members who complete Level V of the CAP Senior Member Training Program. (Only about 5 percent of CAP senior members achieve this award.) Those receiving the Gill Robb Wilson Award for January & February are:

Maj. Eugene R. Lenard	AZ
Lt. Col. David S. Boehm	CA
Maj. Michael S. Montgomery	CA
Maj. Delmar R. Hampton	CO
Lt. Col. Patricia J. Devlin	DE
Lt. Col. Virginia S. Montalvo	FL
Maj. Lily L. Gabriel	HI
Lt. Col. Ralph L. Bruns	IN
Col. Charles H. Greenwood	IN
Maj. Timothy F. Hahn	MD
Lt. Col. Thomas R. Kettell	MN
Maj. Randall B. Woodward	PA
Maj. Jack D. Epperly	SC
Lt. Col. Steven J. Trupp	TX
Lt. Col. David C. Scull	VA
Lt. Col. Jack L. Hall	WI



Paul E. Garber Award

Second-highest award given to senior members who complete Level IV of the CAP Senior Member Training Program.

Those receiving this award for January & February are:

Lt. Col. John M. Eggen	AZ
Capt. Sue K. Willey	CA
Maj. James S. Burr	CO
Maj. Thomas E. Carson	FL
Capt. Crist D. Fellman	FL
Maj. Lily L. Gabriel	HI
Maj. Paul W. Rollman	HI
Maj. John P. Grubb	ID
Maj. Robert H. Baron	IL
Maj. Troy S. Unsicker	IN
Lt. Col. Thomas W. Barnard	LA
Capt. Nettie S. Breaux	LA
Capt. Craig G. Richardson	NC
Maj. Robert W. Green	NJ
Maj. Ellen G. Hirsch	NY
Capt. Michael P. Mooney	NY
Lt. Col. John W. Fussner	OH
Maj. Mark A. Haddad	OH
Lt. Col. John S. Quinn	OH
Maj. Ted F. Holeman	OK
Lt. Col. Sandie Aurich	OR
Maj. Wayne L. Goho	PA
Maj. Raymond S. Enslow	SC
Maj. Tommy L. Tucker	SC
Lt. Col. Johnnie Ray Prigmore	TX
Maj. Dennis C. Daniel	VA
Lt. Col. James E. Kenkel	VA
Maj. George J. Haberer	WA



Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award

Highest award for cadets who complete all phases of the CAP Cadet Program and the Spaatz Award examination. (Only about one-tenth of 1 percent of CAP cadets achieve this award.) Recipients of the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award for January & February are:

Anthony S. Wong (#1585)	CA
David A. Wainland (#1586)	MD
Mark J. Pomerleau (#1584)	MN
Andrew J. Treiman (#1589)	ND
Erin M. Nelson (#1590)	PA
Ian R. Sturdy (#1587)	VA

Gen. Ira C. Eaker Award

Second-highest award for cadets who successfully complete all Phase IV requirements of the CAP Cadet Program. Cadets receiving the Gen. Ira C. Eaker Award for January & February are:

Robert L. Byford	AL
Jason P. Mueller	AZ
Jeffrey D. Buentgen	CA
Zachary E. Kohl	ID
Matthew M. Zmierski	IN
Kenyon S. Fryman	KS
Stephen P. Sturgeon	KY
Marc A. Daigle	LA
Richard J. Poor	MA
Andrew J. Treiman	ND
Benjamin D. Andraka	NM
Curtis E. Christensen	NM
Paul M. Hoisington	NM
Charlsie M. Brooks	NY
Holden T. Fenner	NY
Alfred G. Gee	PR
Diamond K. Gee	PR
Corey W. Tuttle	TN
Nathaniel J. Evans	VA
Katrina L. Litchford	VA





Lt. Col. Ruth Hubert gets a preflight briefing from glider pilot Maj. Howard Chipman before enjoying her first glider ride.

A Wonderful Life

CAP Pilot Caps Career with First Glider Flight

If you could describe the Florida Wing's Lt. Col. Ruth Hubert in just one word, "legendary" would be ideal.

The 89-year-old CAP pilot, a charter member of CAP in 1942, has seen and done just about everything a pilot might desire to do. A member of WASP (Women Airforce Service Pilots) during World War II, Hubert trained male pilots for the war while also ferrying and testing aircraft. Later, the frequent air show daredevil took on assignments as a CAP squadron commander, emergency services officer and cadet orientation pilot.

During Hubert's 71 years of flight and 3,500 hours aloft, the pioneer has slipped the surly bonds in the AT-6, BT-13, Stearman biplanes and Cessna 172s and 182s. But, believe it or not, she has always needed an engine, until recently.

"Wow! That was fun — I want to do it again," the aviation veteran said recently after landing with CAP glider pilot Maj. Howard Chipman on her first glider flight ever.

Hubert's adventure began at a glider field in Zephyrhills, about 60 miles northeast of St. Petersburg, Fla., where a tow plane lifted Chipman and Hubert's Grob 103 to about 3,000 feet, then cut the aircraft loose.

The adventure unfolded after Hubert casually mentioned she'd never surfed

More About Ruth Hubert

Title: CAP Emergency Services Officer

Membership: CAP charter member in 1942; rejoined in 1974

CAP positions: Squadron commander, emergency services officer, mission pilot, cadet orientation pilot

Flight hours: 3,500

Aircraft flown: AT-6 Texan, BT-13 Valiant, Stearman, Cessna 172, Cessna 182

Military experience: WASP (Women Airforce Service Pilots) aviator

Did you know? Hubert's long career in aviation includes many hours turning loops and making dives as a daredevil acrobat at air shows across the U.S.

"I enjoyed the view very much and I enjoyed the quiet. It was really just like a bird floating up there in free flight."

— Lt. Col. Ruth Hubert

— Capt. Michelle Becker, Saint Petersburg Cadet Squadron public affairs officer, contributed to this story.

wind currents in a sailplane. Before she knew it, she was aloft. She was awarded the flight at the Pinellas Senior Squadron Christmas Party.

"I enjoyed the view very much, and I enjoyed the quiet. It was really just like a bird floating up there in free flight," said Hubert, whose joy revealed the flight was a naturalist's dream come true.

Hubert could observe lakes and wildlife from the air as she always had, but now an even greater sense of peace prevailed.

"You didn't have all that noise of a powered engine. It was just thrilling to not have an engine and still be able to gain some altitude," she said.

In more ways than one, the experience introduced Hubert to a completely new and refreshing educational CAP experience.

"I found that in the glider, the reaction to the pressure on the controls was quite a bit different from the airplane. You don't have the instant response you have in the airplane," the pilot said.

The flight was an appropriate reward for a CAP member who has contributed so much to the organization and to the community.

If you ask Hubert, though, she'll tell you the greatest pleasure came

from serving others.

Recalling her favorite CAP search and rescue mission, Hubert reminisced about flying sundown patrols to search for lost boaters.

"An airplane would go out in the evening on the weekends and look for boats that were in trouble, and I was actually able to get help for boats that were in trouble. It's a thrill that's different from anything else. You feel like you really helped somebody," Hubert said.

In addition to SAR, the multifaceted aviator has been a very active cadet orientation pilot. In fact, many Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and airline pilots received their very first flight with Hubert at the controls.

Appropriately, the day of her flight, several CAP youths took part in the experience. Florida Wing Group 8 launch team cadets Thomas Teamoh, Kevin Rafferty and Destiny Valentine, all from the St. Petersburg Cadet Squadron, handled all ground operations.

Linda Hubert, the aviator's daughter, couldn't be there for the flight, but she knows what it meant to her mom.

"When they picked her up to go to the airfield, she was like a little kid getting ready to go to the circus. Later, she was very giddy and came home just glowing," said Hubert, who calls her mom her "personal hero."

"She's the rock in our family," she said. ▲



CAP Lt. Col. Art Giles smiles after completing the check ride for his private pilot's license with an FAA examiner. He soloed at 16 and, 34 years later, was certified at age 50.

Never Too Late

After 34 Years, Art Giles Fulfills Dream of Becoming a Pilot

By Lenore Vickrey

As a child growing up in Miami, Lt. Col. Art Giles loved to play with model airplanes with his neighbor, whose dad was a pilot for Eastern Airlines. They would spend hours building planes and then playing with them. He especially loved hearing stories from his friend's dad about all the places he'd been in Europe and the Far East.

He became enamored with all things airborne, and his idol was a test pilot named Chuck Yeager. He vowed he would become a test pilot like him.

A few years later, in 1969, Giles and the rest of the world watched in amazement as Neil Armstrong took man's first steps on the moon. "Now I wanted to be an astronaut as well," he recalled.

On a Monday night that summer, Giles was introduced to the Civil Air Patrol, and it didn't take but a week for him to decide to join. Through CAP, he learned that, if he was going to fulfill his goals of becoming a test pilot and an astronaut, he needed to go to the Air Force Academy, and this became his quest.

He worked hard in school, taking lots of math and science courses, and was active in extracurricular

Giles' CAP Achievements

Cadet

One of the first cadets to instruct in Florida's Level I Program. Cadet Officer School, 1972; International Air Cadet Exchange, 1974

Senior

Currently Florida Wing Group 7 commander. Former squadron and group commander, Florida Wing Headquarters deputy inspector general and wing vice commander

Awards & Decorations

Ira C. Eaker Award with Silver Star, Gill Robb Wilson Award, Command Service Ribbon with Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Award, Red Service Award with 35-year service device, Brig. Gen. Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager Aerospace Education Award, Disaster Relief Ribbon with Valor Distinction and Rescue "Find" Ribbon

activities. He completed all 15 achievements of the CAP cadet program at that time, was promoted to cadet lieutenant colonel and became his squadron's cadet commander.

"Back in the day, you could solo in 10 hours or less," he remembered. "I applied for and won the first one the squadron offered."

He began flying on Saturday mornings at Tamiami Airport. After a few lessons, he was ready and made his first successful solo at age 16 in a CAP Cessna 150. "What a rush!" he recalled.

"I finished off the rest of the 10 hours and then had to postpone flying for several years. All the money I made as an usher at the local movie house went to help Mom with household expenses," he said. Giles' dad had died three years earlier.

Though he was appointed to the Air Force Academy, after a year he decided it was not for him.

"Sometimes desire is not enough," he explained. "The academy and me were not a good fit." But after a few years of working several different jobs, he found something that intrigued him: being a firefighter.

Giles has since made his career with the Miami Dade Fire Rescue Department, where he is a captain. He has also stayed very involved with CAP in South Florida where, as a cadet, he played an integral part in starting the Florida Wing Ranger Program in the late 1970s.

So, whatever happened to his dream of becoming a pilot?

"I never forgot about flying," Giles said. So, encouraged by his wife, Mary, he started taking lessons about a year ago. It took a few years, but at age 50, he earned his private pilot's license, fulfilling the dream he had as a child.

His CAP experiences fueled his desire to earn a pilot's license, and along the way he was inspired by that hero test pilot he'd admired as a child. At a CAP-sponsored National Congress on Air Space Education

session one year, he mentioned to other attendees he couldn't wait to hear the speech by retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Chuck Yeager, one of the speakers.

"One of my members asked if I would like to meet him in person," he recalled. "I, of course, said I would and started to tell all the thousands of things I would say to him. She said, 'Turn around, he's behind you. ...'

"I spun around and had Chuck Yeager's hand in mine! He said, 'Gen. Charles Yeager, glad to meet you.' I opened my mouth and my tongue swelled up to the size of a grapefruit. At least that's how I felt," he said. "I never did get a word out, but I will remember that moment for the rest of my life."

Florida Wing Commander Col. Daniel Levitch is proud of Giles' achievement. "This is a dream we had together as cadets," he said, "and finally, after 35 years, he has accomplished this awesome task."

Levitch had high praise for Giles. "He is always 'on the ready' to help wherever needed and anyone who needs help," he said. "He is truly an amazing young man, and the best thing about him is his dedication to CAP."

So, what's next for this CAP lieutenant colonel, fire-service captain, now licensed pilot? "I want to go on and earn my instrument rating," he said, adding, "I figure I can finish that by my 75th birthday." ▲

Great Lakes

Wisconsin Wing Joins Community Groups in Flight Against Drugs

WISCONSIN — Community leaders and Wisconsin Wing members in Green Bay, Wis., teamed up for their first-ever Flight Against Drugs, a one-day exposition held recently at the Lambeau Field Atrium.

Members of the Brown County Senior and Fox Cities Composite squadrons set up a flight simulator academy, joining several other community groups providing booths related to youth development and drug awareness. The academy consisted of a flight simulator computer program with a realistic control yoke — a big hit with youth and even a few adults.

Hundreds of children and their parents gathered around the CAP booth, with scores “strapping in” to try landing a virtual Cessna 172. 2nd Lt. Jim Dreyer of the Fox Cities squadron and Capt. Jon Drayna of the Brown County squadron explained the basic principles of flight, handed out CAP literature and talked to participants about aviation careers.

The Green Bay Packers donated free use of the Lambeau Field Atrium, a large indoor space ideal for the event’s main activity, a paper airplane contest.

The event was sponsored by Partners in Education Drug Alliance, an arm of the Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. >> Capt. Jon Drayna



2nd Lt. Jim Dreyer of the Wisconsin Wing's Fox Cities Composite Squadron helps a child experience flight by way of a simulator during the area's first-ever Flight Against Drugs program at the Lambeau Field Atrium in Green Bay, Wis.

Middle East

Maryland Wing's Radio Program Hits Airwaves, iPods



1st Lt. Steven Solomon, host of the Maryland Wing radio program “Civil Air Patrol Today,” interviews Kevin Finson, cadet commander of the wing’s Howard Composite Squadron.

MARYLAND – The Maryland Wing is broadcasting a unique 30-minute statewide radio program promoting CAP’s mission.

“Civil Air Patrol Today” is broadcast every Sunday morning on six AM radio stations in Maryland and Washington, D.C. The program is also available on the Maryland Wing Web site at <http://mdcap.org/radio>, where visitors can download and listen to all the episodes or subscribe to the show’s podcast.

Recent Web site monitoring statistics indicate the show has been downloaded 8,101 times.

Maryland Wing Public Affairs Officer 1st Lt. Steven Solomon hosts the program and Maj. William Parris, who operates a radio production facility, is the producer.

Solomon, Parris and Maj. Christian Ready, who created the Web site, received a Commander’s Commendation for their outstanding contributions to this initiative.

>> 1st Lt. Steven Solomon

North Central

Squadron Tunes Cadets Into Amateur Radio Club

NEBRASKA — Members of the Nebraska Wing's Gen. Curtis E. LeMay Offutt Composite Squadron recently received its Amateur Radio Relay League club charter to be the WB0CAP Youth Amateur Radio Club.

The charter was presented by Matt Anderson, Nebraska section manager for the ARRL, to Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Darrell McMillan. WB0CAP is the club's FCC license.

The club's goal is to introduce youth to aspects of technology, science and math they may not be exposed to in school and to present it in a way that will keep their interest.

"We formed the club specifically for CAP cadets as a way to educate them about amateur radio and to increase their proficiency in communications," said senior member Maj. Edward A. Moss.

"This club definitely has taken a step in the right direction. There are few clubs in the area with a focus on youth," said Anderson.

"Last year, the ARRL and CAP signed a memorandum of understanding encouraging education and information exchange among their respective memberships. This club will help accomplish that goal," said Moss. >> Maj. Edward A. Moss



Nebraska Wing members Cadet Master Sgt. Dave Pingleton and, standing, Capt. Jason Johnsen fine-tune their amateur radio skills during a meeting of the WB0CAP Youth Amateur Radio Club.

Northeast

Emergency Response Skills Helps Cadet Save Father's Life

VERMONT— Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Amberly Bonilla of the Vermont Wing's Rutland Composite Squadron acted quickly and likely saved the life of her father, James A. Bonilla, when a blood vessel in his leg ruptured recently.

Her father credits Civil Air Patrol for giving his daughter the emergency response training to cope with the situation.

Bonilla controlled the bleeding by wrapping up her father's leg. She drove her father to the emergency room, during which time her father, because of shock and blood loss, lost consciousness. Upon their arrival at the emergency room, the cadet immediately alerted hospital staff to the situation.

Mr. Bonilla was transfused with three units of blood and spent several days in intensive care. He is now at home and doing well.

"I attribute her competency for handling this emergency situation to the training she has received in CAP," the elder Bonilla said. "If she would not have been home at the time and acted in such a professional manner, I would not be alive today."

Vermont Gov. Jim Douglas called Bonilla personally to commend her for her life-saving actions.

Bonilla has been a CAP member since April 2003. During a recent two-day training exercise held at Rutland Composite Squadron in North Clarendon, Vt., Bonilla taught and oversaw several classes, including emergency services, which involved preparing a military-style pack for search and rescue missions. Having her own medical kit packed and ready at all times proved instrumental in her ability to respond quickly to the emergency situation in her own home.

>> 2nd Lt. Cheryl Loizeaux



Bonilla

Pacific

Members Help Evacuate Apartments At Risk

OREGON — Members of Oregon Wing's Columbia Composite Squadron, along with other community volunteers, helped apartment dwellers evacuate their homes recently after days of relentless rain caused the ground around the apartments to become unstable.

Impending landslides forced management of Newell Creek Apartments in Oregon City, Ore., to request help with moving tenants to safer units within the complex.

At times, in heavy rain, over 15 cadets and three senior members, led by project officer 2nd Lt. Todd Felix, moved toys, televisions, beds, sofas, boxed goods and other household articles as directed by the tenants. Garages were also emptied.

Fifteen families and their belongings were relocated during the evacuation. >> 2nd Lt. Carl Knox



In preparation for potential landslides, Columbia Composite Squadron members help evacuate apartment residents in Oregon City, Ore.

Rocky Mountain

Cadets Learn Rocket Science



MONTANA — The Lewis and Clark Composite Squadron recently entered a team in the fourth annual Team America Rocketry Challenge, the world's largest model rocketry contest. If chosen for the finals, the team will compete with 100 teams from across the country for \$60,000 in prizes.

The contest required the team to design, build and test a model rocket to safely carry a large hen's egg for 45 seconds while reaching an altitude of 800 feet. The rocket-building process, which incorporated professional methodologies, embraced concepts like trajectory computing and drag elimination. The contest is co-sponsored by the Department of Defense and NASA.

Capt. Gil Johnson, team captain, said the contest is an excellent opportunity

for cadets to learn hands-on lessons in aerodynamics and physics. "There's a deep satisfaction in knowing the things you have learned are helping launch your project rockets into the sky," said Johnson. Also working with the team are 1st Lt. Dennis Coulson, safety officer, and cadet Andrew Horton, technical mentor.

The other team members are cadets Tech. Sgt. Spencer Gilchrist, payload specialist and team manager; Tech. Sgt. Casey Johnson, news release officer, motor retention specialist and propulsion and ignition specialist; Airman Basic Kathryn Gregori, recovery specialist; and Airman Basic Thomas Lund, rocket builder. >> Cadet Tech. Sgt. Casey Johnson

The Lewis and Clark Composite Squadron's entry in the world's largest model rocketry contest was constructed according to professional standards.

Southeast

Alabama Secretary of State Honors Maxwell Cadet

ALABAMA — Alabama Secretary of State Nancy Worley presented cadet Lorenzo Enriquez of the Alabama Wing's Maxwell Composite Squadron with a Certificate of Honor during a recent ceremony.

Worley visited the wing's headquarters at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., to recognize Enriquez for earning CAP's Gen. Billy Mitchell Award.

"Cadet Enriquez, congratulations. Your leadership and your example for all other young people in the state of Alabama are truly noteworthy," said Worley.

"We're so proud of you, and we just wish every young person in the state did what you have done," she said, as she handed Enriquez the certificate. His peers then made a loud, congratulatory whooping sound in unison.

The crowd that gathered to honor Enriquez included his father, 2nd Lt. Lou Enriquez, and his mother, 1st Lt. Deborah Enriquez. All members of the family are part of the Maxwell squadron. >> Neil Probst



Cadet Lorenzo Enriquez of the Alabama Wing's Maxwell Composite Squadron receives a Certificate of Honor from Alabama Secretary of State Nancy Worley during a recent ceremony held at the squadron's headquarters at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Southwest

Arkansas Wing Conducts Statewide Search and Rescue Exercise

ARKANSAS — Arkansas Wing volunteers took to the skies recently to practice their search and rescue skills in an exercise spanning the entire state.

Members used light aircraft to practice flying and observation skills to locate missing aircraft. In Jonesboro, Ark., members of the 120th Composite Squadron trained with direction-finding equipment used to locate aircraft emergency beacons. At wing headquarters in Little Rock, Ark., three officers working to become incident commanders participated in a tabletop exercise designed to test their planning and decision-making abilities.

Statewide, members also conducted aerial photography sorties over critical infrastructure to simulate image-assessment missions that CAP could be assigned to perform after a natural disaster or terrorist attack.



Arkansas Wing members 2nd Lt. Robert Williams and Maj. Henry Lile plan a search and rescue mission.

The threat of a natural disaster in the Arkansas area goes beyond tornadoes. The New Madrid Fault Zone, which includes northeast Arkansas, puts the region at the greatest of risk for earthquake activity of any place in the nation except the West Coast, according to the Center for Earthquake Research and Information at the University of Memphis. A major earthquake could impact communities along the fault line as well as cause significant damage in major metropolitan areas such as Little Rock and Memphis, Tenn. >> Maj. Blake Sasse



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